

Decisive party backing for Chancellor's strategy

Labour Party conference yesterday gave the Government the decisive support it sought for its economic strategy. After a vehement defence of the past by Mr Healey, the Chancellor, and

the promise of two packages of economic concessions to come, the delegates, led by the block-voting trade unions, gave the Government victory on every essential point.

Two concessionary packages are promised

A David Wood, chief editor, said that the Labour Party conference yesterday afternoon, in opening of their annual conference with the rank and file, was a virtual success. It was a success because it was a party conference and not a party congress, and because it was a party conference and not a party congress, and because it was a party conference and not a party congress.



The Chancellor vehemently defending his strategy from the conference rostrum.

...a lot of experience and that assessment. Yesterday the Government had to face one or two motions critical of Mr Callaghan, the Cabinet, the Government's economic strategy, the Labour Party's trade union movement, and the electoral prospects of the Labour Party. The motions had to do with the economy, the ministerial system, the abundance of the Government's economic strategy, the abundance of the Government's economic strategy, the abundance of the Government's economic strategy.

...were inherited from the 1970-74 Conservative government. The resolution went on to recognize, however, that the Government's economic strategy had not been fully understood or accepted by most of the British people. It then urged immediate action on the totally unacceptable high level of unemployment, greater financial help to local authorities to restore cuts in public expenditure and strict control of prices at all levels.

...committed the Government to a general election next year, but he later ambivalently qualified that impression. "I ran out of Labour's dilemma," he said, "and should have said a general election in the coming years, not the coming year." But for all sensible politicians, the Chancellor had it right the first time.

...Cuts in taxes, he said, are much better for the cost of living than irresponsible high increases in more wages. The significance of the pact with the Liberals in giving moderate rates in the Cabinet the backbone to resist left-wing policies was made glaringly clear yesterday when Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, wound up after a debate on unemployment and industrial democracy (our Parliamentary Correspondent writes).

More than tax cuts needed, unions say

Mr Paul Roush, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, said the Treasury minister's speech lacked any positive proposals to overcome unemployment. He criticized the cuts in public spending measures in the International Monetary Fund, about which Mr Healey had been so flustered.

...he intends to take to reduce unemployment, which they regard as having higher priority than wage restraint. Mr Alan Fisher, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, said the Treasury minister's speech lacked any positive proposals to overcome unemployment.

...motion, adopted by the conference, more radical measures to use the full resources of the National Enterprise Board, subsidies for unemployed young people up to the age of 25, and "substantial restoration" of the public sector capital programme, particularly construction.

...But in return the Chancellor cannot look too confidently to the unions to abide by his limit of 10 per cent on earnings increases. Printers' and journalists' claims, page 4
Conference report, page 5
Diary, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Heavy bout of selling hits the dollar

By Caroline Atkinson

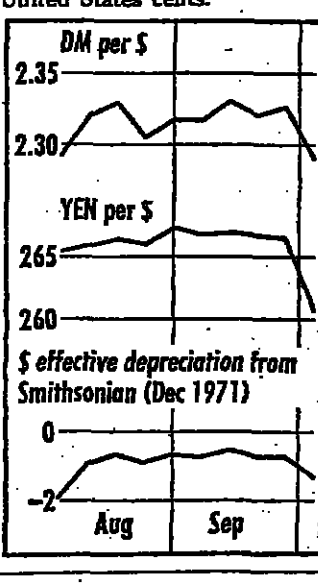
In another day of hectic dealing on the foreign exchanges the dollar fell sharply against all major currencies. It closed at a four-year low against the Japanese yen of 260.60, down 3 yen from the close on Friday.

...The pound rose steadily throughout the day against the dollar. Its closing rate of \$1.7559 was the highest since August last year. But the Bank of England held the pound's effective rate, measured against a basket of currencies, steady at 62.3.

...In so doing the Bank was thought to have bought as much as \$250m for the reserves. This will not show up in the September report for the United Kingdom official reserves, due to be published this afternoon and expected to be extremely high.

...The dollar's plunge yesterday was a result of widespread selling in most financial centres for both commercial and speculative purposes. It was a continuation of the slide begun last week by the American Treasury Secretary's forecast that the United States would have large trade and current account deficits next year on top of the huge deficits expected this year.

...It fell to DM2.247 in July, for example, and then slowly climbed back to over DM2.32. The large American trade deficit with Germany, \$25,000m (about £14,200m) and \$30,000m now accepted as inevitable, will exert a steady downward pressure on the value of the dollar.



Girl, 5, and boy, 4, both come from wealthy families

Children kidnapped in Geneva and Turin

Two young children from wealthy families were kidnapped yesterday, one from the grounds of her parents' house in Geneva and the other while returning home with his grandmother and a bodyguard from a Turin park.

...Graziella's great-grandfather Simon founded the Patino tin dynasty. He began as a penniless clerk in Bolivia, made a fortune in tin mining and became one of the richest men in the world.



Graziella Ortiz-Patino, taken from her home.

...She was abducted at 8 am from the Chateau Elma in the exclusive suburb of La Capite, by two men in an Alfa Romeo car with Genoa number plates. A mansevant who tried to stop them was hit over the head and recovered treatment in hospital.

...Turin: Two men kidnapped Giorgio Garbero, the four-year-old grandson of Signor Orfeo Pianelli, an industrialist and president of the Turin Football Club as he was running home after a midday walk.



Giorgio Garbero, grandson of industrialist.

...Mrs Gandhi held in Delhi police barracks

Delhi, Oct 3.—Mrs Indira Gandhi, who was Prime Minister of India for 11 years, was arrested today on corruption charges, six and a half months after an election defeat swept her from power.

Hijackers free last 19 hostages in Algiers

Algiers, Oct 3.—Japanese Red Army terrorists released their last 19 hostages today from a DC-8 airliner after the aircraft themselves, according to announcements by the Algerian Press Service here and officials in Tokyo.

...mediate information on whether the hijackers had been arrested, granted asylum or told they were free to leave Algeria.

...Three members of her last Cabinet were also arrested; two prominent industrialists; two senior civil servants; and the man who served Mrs Gandhi as personal secretary during 21 months of emergency rule. The charges against Mrs Gandhi are:

- 1. Bad faith in awarding an oil and natural gas contract to a French firm, resulting in a loss of revenue to the Government.
- 2. Misusing her official position to acquire 104 vehicles for Congress party electioneering.

...The last 19 hostages included 12 passengers and seven crew members. The agency said that after the hijackers left the DC8 it taxied away from the runway where police had blocked it and moved to the terminal.

...In Tokyo, Foreign Ministry sources said Japan would not ask for the extradition of the hijackers or the return of the ransom "in view of Algeria's cooperation."—UPI and Reuters.

...Mrs Gandhi had appeared to be making a strong political comeback, attacking the government's economic and social policies, after living in seclusion for several months. The members of her last cabinet taken into custody were Mr Hari Ram Gokhale, the former Law Minister, Mr Keshav Dev Malik, the former Petroleum Minister, and Professor D. P. Chatterjee, the Commerce Minister.

...The agency did not mention the seven crew members, indicating that they were preparing the aircraft for departure. It said the passengers were freed, and conducted, relaxed and smiling in a bus to the VIP lounge where refreshments were served to them.

...This was an exceptional measure to cope with an emergency. It is a heart-breaking grief for a constitutional state expelled journalists from the measure.—AP and Reuters.

abies spreads more cases of France

...abies has been confirmed further 38 departments of France. Seventy-seven departments out of the 95 in the country are now affected by the disease.

Benn attack on 'powers of patronage'

An attack on the patronage powers of prime ministers was made by Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, when he addressed prospective parliamentary Labour candidates in Brighton. He said that it took 40 million people to elect 365 members of the Commons, yet the last seven prime ministers had appointed 750 peers, each with a vote in Parliament.

Meeting at Lord's 'was charade'

Mr Kerry Packer accused the Australian Cricket Board of Control of being interested only in perpetuating its power when he gave evidence in the High Court, in London. He described a meeting with the International Cricket Conference at Lord's in June as a "charade". They had not wanted any form of compromise.

Manufacturers to invest £6,500m

Manufacturing companies are planning to spend up to £6,500m on new investment, according to a Department of Industry survey. This would represent a rise of between 12 and 17 per cent on the figure expected for this year.

Golden Hind search

Archaeologists started a six-week dig at Deptford to try to find Drake's Golden Hind. Elizabeth I ordered the ship to be preserved as a monument to posterity but it was left drifting in the Royal Naval Dockyard.

UN man for Rhodesia

General Prem Chand, who commanded the United Nations forces in the Congo in 1962 and Cyprus in 1970, will be in Rhodesia this week as the United Nations representative in the Rhodesia settlement negotiations. General Chand, who is 61, is a retired Indian officer. He will work closely with Britain's special representative, Field Marshal Lord Carver.

Israeli warning to US

Israeli Government sources say there will be no new Geneva peace conference unless what they see as an American shift towards the Palestinians is reversed. Israel is pinning its hopes on a meeting tomorrow between Mr Dayan and President Carter.

John Peel charge

Three men dug up the grave of John Peel at Calbeck, Cumbria, to obtain cheap publicity for the cause of anti-hunting. A note found suggested that it was an act of revenge on behalf of foxes killed by Peel, counsel said.

Helsinki review

The follow-up conference to Helsinki opens in Belgrade today to review the implementation of the accord signed two years ago. The Russians have been worried that the West will try to put them on trial for violations of human rights. The Western nations, however, see the Helsinki process as a means to influence East-West relations.

Leader page, 15

Letters: On the productivity of British industry, from D. A. Ball, and others; on Irish unity, from Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien; and on the neutron bomb, from Mrs Robin Barling. Leading Articles: Mr Healey and the economy; Middle East. Features, pages 14 and 15. Nicholas Bethel on the changing power structure in Russia; Bernard Levin on the Conservative Party; Michael Phillips asks if the EEC's economic policy is paying off; Logie Bruce Lockhart on Oxfordshire; Sport, page 10. Football: Half England's World Cup party from Liverpool and Ipswich; Rugby Union: Selectors go for experience in match against United States; Michael Phillips reflects on Alleged's Arc victory; Motor racing: Uncertainty over future of Niki Lauda.

— LYONS RANGE

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Y-to-rule top lifts

It engineers started a wide work-to-rule yesterday. The decision as that lifts and escalators over bridges, public buildings and factories will gradually go out of service for lack of attention.

By John Hennessy
Sports Editor

Mr Packer maintained that he had made all the sacrifices. When he had yielded the point at the start of the meeting that the control of his matches should rest with the ACB, it had come as a great shock to the meeting. They had not wanted a compromise "in any way, shape or form" and had scrambled around for an excuse

"Heavy breathing?", Mr Kempster asked. "Even heavy grunting", Mr Packer replied. He said English cricket would benefit if Test players took part in his series and then reclaimed their place in the England team. Lesser players would be lucky to have had the experience of touring Pakistan and New Zealand this (English) winter.

The report of the party's executive committee to the annual congress, which begins on November 12, says that since the congress in August, 1975, membership has gone down from 28,519 to 25,293. Circulation of the party's newspaper, the *Morning Star*, has also declined despite considerable efforts to expand it.

During the past year the Communist Party published its

The executive committee of the Communist Party describes the period since the last national congress as one in which "the Labour Government has continued to carry out policies which throw the burden of capitalism's crisis onto the shoulders of the working class".

than 14,500,000 visits to Britain's historic houses, gardens and ancient monuments last year, more than half as many again as in 1975.

British Tourist Authority figures show that overseas visitors accounted for nearly a third of all visits to historic properties during the year. The estimated total number of visits was 48,500,000, nearly a million more than 1975.

The National Front has been banned from holding a meeting in Reading town hall on October 29 because of fears of violence from left-wing demonstrators if the meeting went ahead.

A subcommittee of the borough council had given permission for the meeting, but last night the council's policy committee reversed that decision.

A subcommittee of the borough council had given permission for the meeting, but last night the council's policy committee reversed that decision.

Earlier in the day the police said that the home of Mr Philip Baker, the Front's Berkshire organizer, had been attacked.

A brick with the message "Kilroy was here" and a "Kilroy" sign hurled through a ground-floor window. The police said they were treating the threat seriously.

Last night the councillors were told that three petitions had been received from ethnic groups asking for the meeting



Most people tend to think of donations being used to restore sudden, severe blood loss in accident victims or patients undergoing major surgery or, perhaps, to give exchange transfusions to rhesus babies suffering from destruction of their red cells, which make up one of the various components of blood in the body.

Research is progressing on the transfusion of white blood cells, which help to fight infection. But that work is still in the investigatory stage. Successful transfusion of those cells could, for example, help patients to

A person can become a blood donor at the age of 18. Each donation is of about three quarters of a pint. The procedure takes about half an hour and is painless. The donor is able to return home or go back to work after a short rest.

Donors are awarded a bronze badge for 10 donations, a silver one for 25 and a gold badge for 50.

Altogether six men and women were convicted at last Friday's trial of the fast City Commission of rape and murder. They took part in the raids, in which the boutique assistant was killed.

Seven of the eight were convicted of the murder of Anne Dunlop, aged 27, whose charred body was found in the wreckage of the boutique on the night of the fire where she worked after closing time.

(continued)

The inquiry was adjourned

Earlier this year in Dublin, Mr. Carey called the IRA killers and Marxists.—AP.

The jet, an American-owned De Havilland twin-engine plane, had stopped at Shannon to refuel on the way to Baltimore. All the passengers were Americans returning from Rome. The airport's firemen fought the blaze, but the jet was too badly damaged to be repaired. The plane will be scrapped, and the passengers' luggage was lost.

he wanted to stand down, and Secretary of State port, to convene and planning inquiry. The inquiry was

not going to be sufficient to outweigh any substantial health risk, should it exist, and it does not seem to me that the extent of the alleviation is of very great importance."

The inspector asked whether

Sun rises : Sun sets : 15°C (59°F).
 7.6 am 6.32 pm W Midlands, S Wales, SW, Central N England : Cloudy with rain, brighter with showers later; wind SW, fresh, veering, W, fresh or strong; max temp 14°C (57°F).
 Moon sets : Moon rises :
 1.54 pm 10.57 pm N Wales, NW, NE England :
 Last quarter : Tomorrow
 Lighting up : 7.2 pm to 6.38 am
 High Water : London Bridge :
 Sun :

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Generally unsettled with showers or longer periods of rain but also bright intervals; cold.

usually in only one day with the minimum of fuss.

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The department has completed its main inner-area studies in the planning field, and proposals for research on

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c. cloud; d. drizzle; f. fair; r. rain; s. sun; sl. sleet.

	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F				
Albany	s	25	77	Cardiff	d	13	55	Jersey	s	14	57	Naples	a	21	70
Algeria	s	25	77	Chicago	s	17	63	L. Palma	s	26	79	Nice	s	22	72
Amsterdam	s	24	76	Cincinnati	s	17	63	Lisbon	s	24	75	Oahu	s	24	75
Atlanta	s	24	76	Columbus	s	17	63	London	s	24	75	Osaka	s	24	75
Bombay	s	27	81	Dublin	c	15	59	London	s	11	52	Perth	s	18	64
Bombay	s	27	81	Dublin	c	15	59	London	s	11	52	Perth	s	18	64

(Inc. TVA): Germany, Dmk 2.2
 Greece, Dr 38; Holland, Dfl 2.2
 Italy, Lire 600; Luxembourg, Lfr 5
 Madeira, Esc 20.00; Malta, Sc 10
 Norway, Kr 1.68; Portugal, Esc 22.5
 Spain, Ptas 60; Sweden, Skr 4.3
 Switzerland, Str 2.20; USA/Canada
 \$1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 24.

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...the shadow of S...
...overlooking Derx...
...to become a place...
...for the disabled

...the poet a legacy of
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...or following a
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فكرنا من الاله

HOME NEWS

Men alleged to have damaged John Peel's grave for 'revenge'

From Our Correspondent
Wigton

A telephone call to a news agency said that the bones of John Peel, Cumbria's famous huntsman, had been dug up and thrown into a cesspit, it was stated at Wigton Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Three men were before the court on a charge of causing criminal damage to a headstone, the property of the rector and churchwardens of Caldbeck parish church.

They were David Hough, aged 48, company director, of Farriers Road, Middle Barton, Banbury, Oxfordshire; Michael Huskinson, aged 23, post-graduate student of Abbotsey, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire; and Gary Treadwell, aged 21, formerly of Ridge Close, Nutter, Sussex, and now of no fixed address.

The men elected to go for trial at the Crown Court and asked for reporting restrictions to be lifted. Mr Hough asked that in the interim of a full trial none of the magistrates should have any connection with blood sports or with local councils or the Church of England.

Mr Ivan Stowe, the chairman, said that none of them had any connection with blood sports or councils, but he told Mr Hough that his objections to their being on the jury were being taken into account.

Mr John Kay, for the prosecution, said that John Peel had been immortalized in a hunting song and his grave in Caldbeck was something of a landmark. The headstone was found to have been damaged on January 23. A corner had been knocked off and the grave had been dug into.

He alleged that the offence was committed to obtain cheap publicity for the cause of anti-hunting. The grave, which was

still tended by relatives of John Peel, was dug up to a depth of about three feet and a fox's head and a note in the form of a poem were placed in it.

The poem was as lacking in literary merit as it was in taste, said.

It conveyed that it was an act of revenge on behalf of all the foxes that had been killed in Peel's hunting career.

Mr Kay said that Mr Geoffrey Smith, senior assistant news editor of the Press Association, had received a telephone call from a man who said that John Peel's bones had been dug up and thrown into a cesspit. The man said that it was the work of the Animal Liberation Front.

Mr Kay said that some bones found in the bottom of the grave had been reburied. "It was unlikely they belonged to Mr Peel because his wife and son, John, who died after him, were buried in the same grave", he said.

He alleged that fibres on the fox's head matched those on a pair of trousers found in Mr Hough's home, and some soil from his wellington boots was similar to that at Caldbeck.

Mr Huskinson, he said, denied that he had been in Cumbria, but a picture taken from his camera showed him to have been in a Worthington car park. He added that in Mr Treadwell's bedroom was found a scrapbook entitled *Confession of a Saboteur*; in it were newspaper cuttings relating to the damage to the stone and grave.

Mr Geoffrey Smith said in evidence that the man who telephoned the Press Association said in a second call that they had dug down about six feet and added: "We think we got everything out; it was pretty heavy, but something has to be done to help foxes".

The hearing continues today.

Life ban on persistent drunken drivers urged

Motorists convicted of driving with an alcohol level above 200 mg in a millilitre of blood and those who constantly offend by driving with levels above the present legal limit of 80 mg should lose their licences for life, or at least until they could prove that many drinks or heavy drinkers and that the consequences of conviction were not sufficient to make them break the habit or seek treatment, he said.

Banning drivers had been recommended by the Blemmer-hasset committee, set up in 1974 to examine the law on drinking and driving. In America coercion used in industry

alcoholism programmes for employees had shown recovery rates of over 70 per cent, greater than anything achieved in Britain.

There should be no further delay in implementing the committee's proposals, Sir Bernard said. In Britain prosecutions for drinking and driving offences had increased from 56 in each 10,000 population to 16.8.

In 1965, 11,327 motorists were convicted of drunken driving and in 1975 the total had risen to 70,394, of whom more than half had consumed more than twice the legal limit.

Alcoholism was increasing considerably and convictions for drunkenness had risen every year since 1966. Last year there were 108,698 offences, 8,642 of them by women. The biggest percentage increase was in under-age drunkenness, from 1,880 in 1966 to 6,113 last year.

Union takes Grunwick before tribunal

By Robert Parker

Another stage in the Grunwick dispute starts today when the company appears before a tribunal to answer allegations by the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical, and Computer Staff (Apecs) that pay and conditions at its factory do not compare well with similar companies.

Apecs is taking the company before the Central Arbitration Committee under schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act, 1975. That is designed to make sure that people doing similar work should be paid equally.

The schedule has only recently come into force and there are hundreds of applications under it.

Grunwick and Apecs have so far submitted written material. Oral submissions, together with additional written material, will be placed before the tribunal today.

When the tribunal, under Professor J. C. Wood, has heard the evidence it is expected to take up to a month to reach a decision.

The strike committee is to mobilize support for renewed mass picketing on October 17.

Decisions on solicitors

The Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal in London yesterday ordered that Mr Marcus Harris, of Bridge Street, Manchester, be struck off the roll of solicitors for misapplying clients' money, but suspended the order pending a possible appeal.

The tribunal restored Mr Stephen John Gravelley, Agency Director, Devon, one of the worst offenders. He had been struck off in 1972 after being convicted of obtaining money by deception.

Britain as a tiger exporting nation

By Alan Hamilton

Exports of British-bred rare animals are doing well. Last year 21 tigers, four leopards, one pygmy hippopotamus, two servals and 200 axolotls were sent abroad. The axolotl being a small, new-like amphibian from Mexico, this is a rare export to Britain.

But imports of rare animals continue. During 1976 we brought in, among other things: six leopards, one rhinoceros, six Mongolian antelopes, one Chilean pudu, 10 chimpanzees, nine polar bears, 30 falcons, four giant tortoises, 150 box constrictors and three pythons.

The figures were compiled by Customs and Excise officers. The trade in exotic animals, alive and dead, is disclosed in a report published yesterday by the Department of the Environment on the first year of operation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species now signed by 36 nations, which seeks to curtail the traffic in rare animals and plants by strict control and licensing.

Since the treaty was signed by Britain last year, further controls have been applied to some species in particular danger: apes, otters, rhinoceroses, peregrine falcons and sea turtles. Almost all kinds of large cats, primates, elephants and crocodiles are protected by the treaty.

The Department of the Environment's wildlife conservation section is awaiting the 1977 figures with interest to see if there has been any significant drop in the trade of threatened species.

The trade in rare live animals is small, and the figures are largely made up of specimens moving between zoos, or the comings and goings of cubs. The dead animal traffic is much greater.

Last year we imported 112 jaguars, 159 leopards, three leopards heads, two tiger skins, one stuffed tiger, one Nile crocodile skin, 400,000 lizard skins of various kinds, one snake head, one rhinoceros head, one Seychelles turtle shell, 300 metres of box constrictor skin, mainly from Argentina.

The ivory trade, although illegal in many countries where the elephant is indigenous, continues to flourish. We imported 150 African elephant tusks for our own use, along with 262 elephant hair bracelets and one elephant tooth. Since the figures were drawn up elephant hair bracelets have been taken off the protected list, as conservationists take the view that no one would shoot an elephant just for its hair.

Britain also did a roaring trade in ivory for re-export, for which we imported 1,270 tusks amounting to 4,300 kilos of ivory. We also bought 10 hippopotamus teeth, which we sent off to France and West Germany. We kept only one of five rhinoceros horns we imported during the year, dispatching the others to Germany and Spain, where their alleged properties are no doubt more highly valued than here.

Sharks' teeth were highly popular; we bought in more than 10,000 for our own use, mostly from Taiwan. And we imported no fewer than 316,000 feathers from the tails of peacocks.

Besides the ivory trade, conservationists take the view that no one would shoot an elephant just for its hair.

Britain also did a roaring trade in ivory for re-export, for which we imported 1,270 tusks amounting to 4,300 kilos of ivory. We also bought 10 hippopotamus teeth, which we sent off to France and West Germany. We kept only one of five rhinoceros horns we imported during the year, dispatching the others to Germany and Spain, where their alleged properties are no doubt more highly valued than here.



Stabbed PC: Police constable Dan Sammie, aged 20, in St Stephen's Hospital, Chelsea, yesterday after being stabbed four times in the back while on observation in plain clothes in the King's Road. Scotland Yard said four white youths and a black boy aged about 14 were being sought over the unprovoked attack.

Dentists reject Ennal move on expenses

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

A move by Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, to get new discussions on dentist expenses within the Dental Rates Study Group was dismissed by the British Dental Association last night.

In a statement Mr Ennals said he was appalled by the association's decision to take action against National Health Service patients and appealed to their representatives to return to the rates study group, from which they withdrew last week.

Insisting that patients should not be made a "bargaining chip" in industrial disputes, Mr Ennals said that at his request Mr H. S. Duncan, the chairman of the study group, was willing to reconvene the group for a meeting next Monday.

Mr Ennals emphasized that the present disagreement concerned only expenses and not earnings. The method of adjustment was one the dentists themselves had requested three years ago.

Mr Ronald Allen, secretary of the BDA, said he was angry and astonished by Mr Ennals's action. Mr Duncan was a public spirited man doing his job responsibly. He had reported the failure of the group to recommend a revised scale of fees for dentists and the matter had been passed back to Mr Ennals.

"Nothing has changed", Mr Allen said. "We think it extremely unfair that the chairman has been brought into a conflict of which he is not part."

Mr Ennals seemed unable to comprehend that in the view of dentists the question of expenses could not be separated from fees.

Children blamed for causing £10m fire damage

Children deliberately started fires in England and Wales last year which cost at least £10m, Mr Charles West, chairman of the Central Fire Liaison Panel, said in London yesterday.

At least 240 big fires were started deliberately during the year, at a total cost of £23m, compared with 1976 at a cost of £3,250,000.

Incendiarism, he added, was by far the main cause of big fires.

Acas to look into London funeral strike

By a Staff Reporter

Both parties involved in the strike of London funeral workers, who started yesterday, are to put their case to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) tomorrow in an attempt to settle their dispute over pay.

Cemeteries and funeral parlours in London were picketed as the strike started. It is the first in the 60-year history of the National Union of Funeral Service Operatives. Since the funeral processions were turned back many funerals due to take place yesterday were cancelled.

The London Association of Funeral Directors, representing about 170 companies, denied union statements that the strike was a result of a 33 per cent increase in the cost of 670 union members out of the 1,000 funeral workers in London.

An association official said the strike was fully effective among workers in the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society's funeral service, and none of its funerals took place. The London Co-operative Society's service was also badly affected although about 15 per cent of union members continued working.

Most private companies, he said, worked normally throughout the day in spite of picketing. At one funeral in south London the procession was temporarily halted while pickets spoke to the driver of the hearse, asking unsuccessfully that he should join them.

The union is claiming an extra £10 a week, most of which it says is justified by a 9 per cent reduction in manpower in the past two years. The funeral directors, who have offered a 5 per cent award under phase two of the incomes policy and a 50p lunch allowance, say they cannot offer more without breaching the Government's pay guidelines.

Mr Roy Wheeler, the union's national organizer, said yesterday: "Things are looking good from our point of view, and the strike has been 95 per cent effective. We do not expect it to have its full impact until about Wednesday. There are a number of companies in London which are non-union and these will be picketed."

£1.25m for girls' bursaries

More than £1.25m has been raised for the Girls' Public Day School Trust Bursaries Fund in the 13 months since it was started.

Interest from the fund has paid for more than fifty bursaries for the current school year. The bursaries, awarded on a combination of academic merit and financial need, range this year from £100 to £600.

Footballer killed

Ian Blair Falls, aged 23, centre forward with Kilmarnock Football Club, died from injuries in a three-vre crash near Glasgow, yesterday.

Women abscond

Five women absconded from Drake Hall open prison, near Ecclestone, Staffordshire, on Sunday night. They were still at large last night.

£86,000 art theft

Police were yesterday seeking paintings valued at more than £86,000 which were stolen from a house in Bristol on Sunday. One painting by Guardi, is valued at £70,000.

Fate of £40m water scheme in balance

By Craig Seton

A public inquiry early next year may decide the fate of a £40m scheme to safeguard water supplies in the south-west of England, which was severely affected by last year's drought. It will be fiercely contested by landowners and farmers on one side and the South West Water Authority on the other.

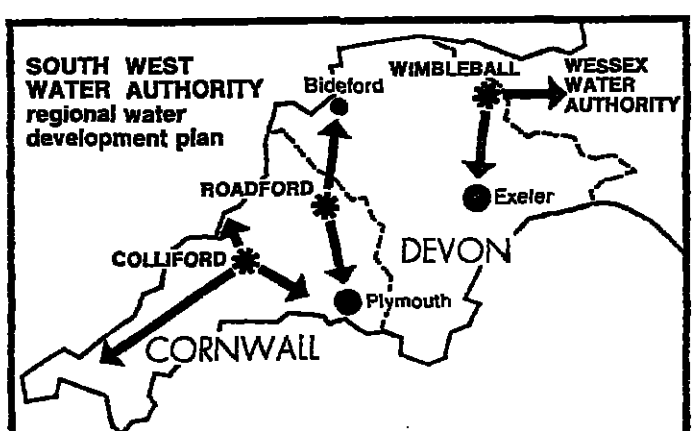
The inquiry will decide whether a reservoir with a capacity of 9,230 million gallons should be built at Roadford, west Devon, to supply Plymouth, north Devon and parts of south Devon.

The reservoir is central to the authority's strategic plan for Cornwall and Devon, one of the worst areas in Britain for water supplies. It is the last of three major reservoirs that form the basis of the plan and without it the authority will have to look for sites for two smaller reservoirs, which could cause delays of many years.

The two other reservoirs are at Wimbleball, in north Devon, and Colliford, on Bodmin Moor, in Cornwall.

Wimbleball has a capacity of 4,500 million gallons and will serve the Exeter and Tiverton areas, parts of south-west Devon and parts of Somerset for the Wessex Water Authority. Water will be impounded at the end of this year.

Colliford has a capacity of 6,230 million gallons and is due to be completed by the early 1980s. It will supply most of Cornwall.



The south-west strategic plan was devised shortly after the new water authorities were created in 1974, and was considered the most likely solution of the area's particular water supply difficulties. They include a lack of storage facilities, an old and inefficient distribution system and the enormous extra demand created by the influx of about four million tourists every summer.

Last year's drought, the worst in living memory in the South-west, made it all the more important that the strategy should be put into action. At one stage 60,000 people were forced to use standpipes for their water supplies and later on in the summer they had to do so even during pouring rain.

The winter dampness helped to replenish stocks and a wet summer this year guaranteed

Laker cancellations bring 200 protests

Nearly 200 angry airline passengers protested at Heathrow yesterday after being stranded in London for two days when two Laker Airways charter flights to New York were cancelled.

Each passenger paid £126 return fare. They were told that their flight had been cancelled because of mechanical

difficulties and the dispute by air traffic control assistants. The first flight was due to leave Gatwick on Saturday but passengers were sent telegram days earlier saying that it had been postponed until Sunday. When they checked in on Sunday, with passengers on another Laker flight, they were told that both flights had been cancelled. They were driven to Heathrow by coach and found hotels for the night.

As airline staff tried to re-book them on a Pan American flight at Heathrow yesterday, a passenger, Miss Joan Wilson, from Wandsworth, London, said: "Laker thinks more about his Skytrain than about ordinary passengers."

Housing deadline

Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, has decided to extend the deadline for comments on the housing Green Paper from November 1 to December 1 in response to requests from interested bodies for more time to prepare their comments.

Mr Benn attacks Labour prime ministers' level of patronage

From Clark
Political Correspondent
Brighton

"The intolerable level of personal patronage" exercised by Labour prime ministers was condemned last night by Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, when he addressed prospective Labour candidates at a meeting of the Labour Parliamentary Association in Brighton.

Mr Benn sought to turn the attention of his audience away from the controversial subject of the reselection of MPs to matters which he thought deserved greater attention: the patronage powers of a prime minister, the abolition of the House of Lords, and the opening up of the flow of information that was being blocked by the operation of the official secrets Acts.

"We cannot have a democratic system in our movement or in our Government while we accept the intolerable level of patronage which still characterizes our conduct of affairs", he said. Sir Harold Wilson, the former Prime Minister, in his book *The Governance of Britain*, has set himself the task of destroying the thesis put forward by Richard Crossman that Britain was advancing to a presidential system of government.

Mr Harold had said that a prime minister was as equal among his Cabinet colleagues, and Mr Benn agreed it was true that in his experience he had

known prime ministers to yield to the majority view.

Other proposals had not been carried through under the Labour Government because lacking a united movement behind them, they had been bypassed in Whitehall.

Concerning parliamentary reform, he said: "As part of the wider question of the supremacy of the House of Commons, I am glad that at this conference we are going without doubt to pass our ultimate resolution on the House of Lords—ending it and not amending it, finishing it, and not replacing it."

Calling for a reform of the official secrets Acts, and the freer flow of information between ministers and MPs and the party, and between ministers and ministers, Mr Benn said: "How can Labour MPs discharge their responsibilities unless they have access to information on which government policy is based?"

It is not good being a rubber stamp or a fan club for the Government," Mr Benn said. "MPs should be part of the decision-making process."

On the flow of information between the Government and the party, Mr Benn said: "We do not want our policies to emerge like the Pope's choice in the Vatican. We want them to come from a chimney falling from the alternative economic strategy has perished in the fire."

Print unions expected to set pay target of 20 per cent

By Paul Routledge and
Christopher Thomas

Leaders of 27,000 printing trade workers employed on national newspapers in London and Manchester are meeting in Brighton today to discuss the shape of a wage claim to take effect from October 1. They are expected to decide on a target of about 20 per cent, possibly with a minimum rise of about £10 a week for lower-paid production workers.

The largest union in the printing industry, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (SgAT), has instructed its members not to abide by the TUC's 12-month rule for intervals between settlements.

The decision by the SgAT executive does not affect negotiations in the national newspaper industry but it is certain to lead to a big claim for 170,000 workers in the general printing and provincial newspaper industry many months before they are due for an increase next April.

Another attack on a wage restraint will be launched tomorrow by the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

The union, led by Mr Clive Jenkins, is prepared to accept a phase two settlement for 22,000 salaried staff employed by ICI that was due on June 1 if the company agrees to an "added value" productivity deal that passes on to employees the cash benefits of increased profitability. Union officials expect the company to come forward with proposals on those lines next month.

The National Union of Journalists yesterday approved a pay strategy for Fleet Street

journalists in a decision that is bound to upset the TUC.

The union's National Newspapers and Agencies' Industrial Council, which has overall authority for Fleet Street journalists' negotiations, voted eight to two, with one abstention, for a motion authorizing individual office claims that complied with last year's annual conference decision for a planned return to collective bargaining.

That means that any house claim that challenges the TUC's 12-month rule will not be blocked by the union's house agreements panel, which under the constitution has to approve all such claims.

National newspaper journalists were due to settle for a maximum of £4 a week under phase two on July 1, but delayed a deal in the hope of doing better in an atmosphere of free collective bargaining.

Despite warning in private that the union is privately allowing negotiations to drift, the level of rises that would defy last month's conference decision on the 12-month rule.

The Newspapers Publishers Association (NPA) decided yesterday to tell the union that the journalists must accept a phase two settlement from July 1. There is further confusion because the NPA, which represents nearly all national newspapers, want talks at national rather than local management-chapel level.

Institute claim: The Institute of Journalists said last night that it intended to launch a campaign to get the rate of 33 per cent across the board for journalists on provincial newspapers (the Press Association reports).

Police 'should be higher in national wage scale'

By a Staff Reporter

The police and working conditions of Britain's police officers would be radically improved to overcome undermanning, a Conservative Party research paper published yesterday says. It suggests that the police should be given a higher place on the national wage scale and efforts should be made to remove unnecessary tedium from the job.

The paper says that teachers could play an important part in the early identification of potential or actual delinquents

and should cooperate with social welfare departments. Additional youth police officers could help to coordinate such work.

Mr Michael Jones, the author, gives a warning that prolonged social and economic hardship created by unemployment among ethnic groups and their housing allocations, and to increased violence and lawlessness unless action is taken.

Politics Today: Combating Crime (Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3NH, 50p).

Commission may be given more new town assets

By Our Parliamentary Staff
Brighton

The commercial and industrial assets of the new town corporations are likely to be transferred to the New Towns Commission, which would have a considerably different role in the future.

Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in Brighton last night that his department was still thinking out the basis for the transfer of those assets, but that at present for "pretty strong managerial reasons" and because the profitability of the assets should be available to the public purse, the short-term remedy and a solution for some time to come should be a transfer to the New Towns Commission.

That did not close the matter, and to reconcile the natural desire of local authorities to have an element of control over the industrial and commercial assets in their areas was something they would have to turn their minds to.

Mr Shore was speaking at a meeting organized by the new towns subcommittee of the Parliamentary Labour Party. Later, in reply to questions,

Mr Shore also disclosed during the meeting that his department was considering an application from Perpetua New Town Corporation, co Durham, where housing is virtually complete, for more land for industrial development.

Some Conservative councils 'underspending on homes'

By Our Planning Reporter
Mr Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction, last night accused some Conservative-controlled councils, with party backing from Westminster, of deliberately underspending on their housing allocations.

Addressing a meeting of Labour councillors at Brighton, he said that such councils were refusing to take up the budgets which his department had authorized.

They are not adjusting their priorities. They are renegeing on their duty to those in housing need and to their electors. "I am collecting hard evidence on this. When I have it, I shall act. When it becomes clear who are and who are not doing their duty, the principle of the parable of the talents will be used to reallocate resources."

"Those who have spent will get more; those who have not will have their allocations reduced. I had rather money was spent than see it disappear into the Treasury."

Despite the financial crisis, the Government had budgeted for about 50,000 local authority housing approvals this year, Mr Freeson said. But the way things were going, the figure was more likely to be about 75,000.

The Government was being justified pressed to increase the work load on the construction industry, as soon as economically practicable, would be a disaster. Any initiative were to be undertaken by Conservative councils making thousands more people unemployed by cutting building programmes.

He had also asked officials to report to him this month on underspending by local authorities on rehabilitation, municipalization and home loans, so that he could look at the scope for reallocation to other authorities.

Mr Rees rejects NF ban

A ban on the National Front under Britain's public order laws was rejected last night by Mr Rees, the Home Secretary.

Mr Rees said that the Government should be concerned with the race relations legislation. Speaking to the Labour Race Relations Action Group in Brighton, Mr Rees drew on his experience in Northern Ireland

Tories added to call for 'clean-up'

Mr Jack Jones, who has called for new standards of political probity and a clean-up of the Labour Party, said yesterday that he included Conservative politicians in his strictures.

The leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union said on Sunday that he was disgusted with some of the things disclosed in the papers. He explained that he had in mind reports about the Pease Property Corporation, but not only Pease.

Mr Jones also spoke about the "big houses" some people live in. He said that he was not Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer in mind. Mr Jones replied: "You can come to your own conclusion about that."

Yesterday he added: "I was referring to Conservative politicians, too. But he declined to elaborate further on his remarks."

Meanwhile, Mrs Gwynne, Lord Murex, a former MP, who was given a £10,000 loan by Pease, said that she was not a Conservative. Mrs Jones said: "Those of us who know Albert Murray know that he would never in any circumstances do anything underhand or indefensible."

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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE/BRIGHTON

Healey expansion hint after 'Battle of Britain' victory claim

Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the Labour Party conference, which began in Brighton yesterday, that thanks to progress made in the past year the Government could begin to take up the slack in the economy.

Following on from the tax cuts, Healey announced that it would be possible to do so, and more than that, provided the rate of inflation was kept under control.

Healey, who spoke from the rostrum rather than the platform, said the Government had not only kept inflation under control but had also managed to bring down the rate of interest to 10 per cent, a level not seen since 1954.

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Five Cabinet ministers sitting among the conference delegates. They are (left to right) Dr Owen, Foreign Secretary; Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; Mr Healey, Chancellor; Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment; and Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry.

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Reports by Alan Wood, John Winder, Bernard Withers, Geoffrey Browning and Brian Moore, of our Parliamentary Staff.

get, in which you know from bitter experience that the weakest go to the wall." (Applause.)

"We can look forward to a steady increase in jobs and living standards over the coming year. But as I have said, the TUC the other day: it is no good trying to start in next year and then jangling your foot on the accelerator when you will still be engine-warm. The Tories did it in 1972 and 1973. This Cabinet is not going to stimulate an artificial pre-election boom like the Tories did in 1964 and 1974 because we intend to and will win the next election."

When she was in New York on the day that the Ford Motor Company announced investment in Wales.

The only thing that can defeat us is ourselves, and that means we have to keep our nerve. We have to show the necessary patience and discipline and we have to stop laying into one another and concentrate on the Tories."

They were facing the most critical election campaign in their history in the coming year. "We have to concentrate our fire on the Tories and not kick through our own goal. And with this Government under this leadership, with Jim Callaghan in the lead and Michael Foot at his side, we shall win and we shall lay the foundations for a socialist Britain for years to come."

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Mr Scanlon challenges the Chancellor to 'pick up the tab' after union sacrifices

After the economic debate, in which Mr Healey defended the Government's record, the conference approved a motion on economic strategy, broadly supporting the Government's approach to the economy.

Mr Robert Wylie (East Kilbride) said a socialist programme was the only answer to the economic crisis. He said the Government was trying to restore services and strict control of the economy.

Mr Roy Hughes (MP for Newport) said that control measures were needed to save the motor industry and to keep other industries going.

Mr Keith Nicholson (Hford, North) said companies should be stopped from using private accounts to avoid paying taxes.

Mr William Sims (Iron and Steel Trades Confederation) urged Mr Healey to look at the heavy plans industries. If workers were lost in that industry they would be lost for good.

Mr Hugh Scanlon (president, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers) said people lived in the world as it was, not as it should be. He said the Government was trying to pick up the tab after union sacrifices.

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Union votes how militants

On Our Political Reporter

solid block vote of trade unions at the conference defeated pressure from militant constituency parties for a decision to be taken on a week on the automatic election of MPs.

Constituency party representatives protested that resolutions on issues had not been called, though there is to be a debate in the week on reselection. They attempted to defeat the amendments at the conference by recommending the reference back to the conference officers' report.

Their efforts, however, were scotched by a vote of 1,217,000. Among the all trade unions who supported militant constituency parties were the National Union of Public Employees and the Association of Technical and Manual Staffs.

After this week a private session of the party will debate a motion suggesting that the party should undergo a selection process to be held no later than 12 months after the date of the next general election.

That makes reporting the conference difficult but not impossible. We can still interview delegates by telephone and cover the meetings away from the

Message of hope from Mr Wedgwood Benn

In an emotive speech, Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, answering the protests of delegates about the high rate of unemployment, said the message from Brighton this week to the British people must be one of hope.

Mr Benn said the Government had to have hope in order to recover their self-confidence.

The Labour Cabinet had fought off the most sustained and organized attack upon Britain's currency and living standards since 1931. Decisions taken this week by the conference would be the basis for Labour's campaign.

Delegates passed a resolution calling for further measures to combat unemployment, including a more radical approach to government policies.

Mr Benn, who replied to the debate for the national executive committee, said they were talking against the sombre background of the high rate of unemployment.

He said the Government was not alone in the struggle against unemployment and that the extra revenue from full employment would have been enough to pay for almost all the cost of public expenditure.

He said the Government had been forced to cut.

The dilemma of the Chancellor was that if he refused to bring down unemployment, and the balance of payments went into deficit, the Government would lose confidence and Britain's financial security would be imperilled.

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Banned journalists covering conference from outside

Mr Christopher Thomas, Labour Reporter

Two journalists banned from covering the conference at the west of their union attacked a closed shop yesterday as a bid to press freedom.

Mr Nigel Duncan and Mr Michael Burrell, political correspondent for Westminster Press, have been working normally since a strike instruction by the Journal Union of Journalists.

The National Executive Committee confirmed the ban at a weekend. The journalists fled to their group yesterday.

"The Labour ban means we are denied access to the conference in Brighton," said Mr Duncan. "We are now working from the neighbouring Grand Hotel."

That makes reporting the conference difficult but not impossible. We can still interview delegates by telephone and cover the meetings away from the

Miss Lestor's warning on social justice

The Labour Party was no longer able to rely on the traditional support that had grown up with it, Miss Joan Lestor, MP for Eton and Slough, and chairman of the conference, said in her opening address. It was not self-evident to those who championed social justice that Labour and the unions were the avenues through which they should work.

Many young people who were anxious about race relations had not looked to the Labour Party. They had sought other ways, sometimes openly scorned political parties.

"I am not altogether surprised," she said, "that the Labour Party should have been their natural choice. For too long we have let the racists call the tune, shouting in the loudest voices, choosing the ground for public debate."

The Labour Party and the trade unions were now irrevocably committed to campaign vigorously for the rights and freedoms of minorities.

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Conference notebook By Fred Emery

Comrades attempt Brechtian alienation

The uproarious revue with which the amateur satirists of Transport House ended the conference on Sunday night was particularly savage on Mr Healey. A chancellor's fireside chat on the economy, taken seriously in the hall, was interrupted by two male nurses who carried him off shouting.

Mr Healey, who had been Chancellor for only slightly better at the hands of the conference. He came haunty down into the hall, and then, by the time he was being sent to speak below the platform, and yet received thumbs down, from on low and on high, and the audience, the IMF certificate of economic success, at last? Inflation was under control (jazzed up version) employment? reselection was the answer, assuming pay moderation, and gradualist reflation.

It was a roughly delivered speech, the grudging applause finally gathering into a rumble. But the comrades did not believe him, and they did not bring his speakers who managed to get called in his wake.

Mr Healey addressed them "to concentrate our fire on the Tories and not kick through our own goal". But, characteristically, they seemed to want to kick him, and in the direction of more socialism. Mr Healey was showered with imprecations; even from the platform where the Prime Minister had sat so impassively. Mrs Castle gave him more of the same, with only a touch of comradely concern.

All day long I can recall only one speaker, Mr Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, praising the Government's strategy rather than burying it. As a co-author he has his tongue slipped in succession in speaking of the need to "get that inflation under control".

Before the conference ended its disbelief, the Chancellor had already observed, with inadvertent irony, that the audience did not like the Conservative leadership, and that every success achieved "perhaps Mr Healey has this year been a Russian puppet to blame for his lack of credibility with his troops."

But it must be said that it is an amusing sight, probably unique wherever party conferences are held, to behold a minister and a government unembraced by their party. The newcomer is told that Labour conferences do not recognize paternity for their government, and are more for more compliant offspring.

But it is also said by party enthusiasts that this dislocation is a healthy sign. Party activists remain faithful to a socialist conscience and raise the cry of full employment, of control, etc, in the ears of their distant technocratic Government.

In that view, the party does not give up even advances—without a word of protest. The "reselection", designed to get Mr Healey back in line with constituency feeling.

The conference has an exotic, slightly un-British look to it. In the indoor stadium of the Brighton Centre, outside for even this largest of party conferences, the management to look slightly east European. Oh, surely not in the anti-authority of the speeches, or in the pastiche of Brechtian alienation. But if you turned the head off there was a look of presidium to the distant podium, with all those flanking stars in red. Leaders' faces, the Brechtian alienation, no east European would think up such a tentative slogan as "We are not a party of the people, we are a party of the people."

The conference tried to educate the Government through the alienation effect, as Brecht called it. The trouble is that it is an unsatisfactory technique in the theatre, and so it seems to be with Labour's conference.

The "fringe" of the proceedings—what somebody yesterday called the real meat of the conference—perhaps the best sampling of all the flavours, like American ice cream, of the factions offered within the Labour coalition.

The number under way is extraordinary, 13 separate meetings beginning as soon as the conference rose last night. And those are only the public ones.

It has been like that since Sunday. It is impossible for any one inquirer, as I have found, to get more than a glimpse of each side. There is no doubt the debate is intense, with never fewer than 80-odd people present, be it pro- or anti-devolution, Common Market, and continuous policy seminars.

Unusually, it is the party's moderate Europhiles who look as if they have just licked the cream off the milk. "Historic shift," says the Owen, Lord Thomson of Maudslayi and others last night celebrated the Prime Minister's apparent accomplishment in putting the question of withdrawal beyond debate at last.

One last theatrical note. The lyrics closing Sunday night's revue to the tune of "Things Ain't What They Used to Be" were: "We know our position, it's back in opposition, Cos things ain't..."

Cuts in rural services condemned

The difficulties of rural areas came to the fore when the conference, recognizing the serious situation existing there, carried a motion calling for the Government's cuts in social services, schools, hospitals and transport.

The motion called on the NEC to set up a working party to recommend a constructive and positive policy for improving employment, transport and social needs of rural areas.

Mr Bert Hazell, president of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, moving the motion, said that more work should be made available by creating small workshops.

Miss Joan Maynard, MP for Sheffield, Brighton, on behalf of the national executive, supported the motion.

Labour needed urgently to win back seats in rural areas, but that meant a change in the difficulties of the people who lived there. Such people were the salt of the earth. There was no kudos whatever to be gained from belonging to a working class for the Labour Party out in the country.

WEST EUROPE

Storm over arrest in Paris of Baader-Meinhof lawyer

From Ian Murray
Paris, Oct 3

A storm of protest is growing in left-wing French legal circles over the arrest of Herr Klaus Croissant, the Baader-Meinhof defence lawyer, in Paris on Friday to answer an extradition warrant issued by the court of appeal in Stuttgart on July 15.

Since Herr Croissant slipped out of West Germany into France he had been keeping his whereabouts a secret, although he gave several interviews to journalists put in touch with him by contacts. It was after one of these interviews on Friday at a flat in the Avenue du Général Leclerc that he was arrested. The police had apparently followed him there and stopped him as he came out.

On Saturday two 40-year-old women, Mlle Hélène Châtelain, an actress and film director, and Mlle Marie-Joséphine Sinat, a petrochemical engineer, were arrested and charged with harbouring Herr Croissant. Mlle Châtelain is the tenant of the flat and Mlle Sinat had arranged the interview.

The protests against his arrest have come from several bodies with a respectable and left-wing legal background. In a statement they have drawn the French Government's attention to the political dimension of the affair.

A new West German law (hurriedly passed by Parliament last week) considers all lawyers who unreservedly defend terrorists as terrorists themselves, the statement claims. It calls this an attack against the basic rights of defence which are an essential protection of the rights of the individual.

If the Paris court of appeal, which will hear a defence application for the release of Herr Croissant on October 10, should agree to his extradition, the statement continues, this would constitute a new offence under French law, the offence of political defence. It would thus create a worrying precedent.

Herr Croissant has applied for political asylum and this is being considered by the French authorities. He was remanded in custody after making a brief appearance before the appeal court on Saturday. Extradition proceedings against him are expected to take some time.

Patricia Clough writes from Bonn: About 90 convicted and suspected terrorists are being held in complete isolation from the outside world under the new anti-terrorist law, which came into force yesterday.

They may not see or write to

their lawyers, receive or send mail, have access to radio, television, newspapers or periodicals or meet each other inside their prisons for a maximum of 30 days.

The law, criticized by its few opponents as an infringement of civil rights, was designed to cut off jailed terrorists from contact outside during the course of terrorist kidnappings and similar crimes. The authorities strongly suspect that such crimes may be organized by, or with the help of, terrorist leaders in prison and that sympathetic lawyers act as go-betweens.

It permits any Land government or, if several Länder are involved, the Federal Justice Minister to order their isolation if there is reason to believe that danger to the "life, safety and freedom of a person" can thus be avoided.

Drawn up hastily on the wave of alarm generated by the kidnapping of Dr. Hannes-Martin Schleyer a month ago today, the law was passed by both Houses of Parliament and signed by President Scheel in less than three days, a speed rarely achieved in the history of the present Parliament.

Four members of the Social Democrat-Liberal coalition voted against and 17 abstained in the Bundestag, the lower house, and the Government realized its embarrassment that the law had passed thanks to the support given it by the hard-line conservative Christian Democrat Opposition.

An amendment by the junior coalition party, the Free Democrats, to allow court-appointed lawyers to keep in touch with the prisoners and look after their interests during the isolation period failed.

The Nobel Prize-winning writer Heinrich Böll said at the weekend that West Germans "will be totally isolated, culturally, politically and spiritually, unless public opinion here does not make an about-turn."

He was commenting in a radio interview on a raid on the home of one of his sons last week by police looking for the kidnappers of Dr. Schleyer. The raid, which followed an anonymous telephone call to police, was denounced by the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* today as part of a campaign to defame and throw suspicion on left-wing writers.

An invitation to the writer Lutz Rieger to read from his works at Göttingen, near Stuttgart, was cancelled at the last minute after an illustrated magazine alleged that he sympathized with terrorists. The incident has provoked strong protests by the president of the West German PEN Club and the West German authors' union.

Mounting toll of murder and violence in Italy's south

Mafia's harsh rule supplants the state in Reggio Calabria

From Peter Nichols
Reggio Calabria, Oct 3

With 51 recorded murders since the beginning of the year, nine kidnappings, about 300 violent attacks and at least 200 wanted men known to be at large, violence in Reggio Calabria province is beginning to be seen as a national problem.

The Communists and Socialists are calling for a parliamentary debate on Calabrian affairs.

In the phrase of a high official, the state's authority in this unhappy region is "about zero". The regional administration got off to a disastrous start seven years ago when the city of Reggio Calabria rose in revolt against the central Government's choice of another Calabrian city, Catanzaro, as regional capital.

The region has not recovered from that beginning. A few weeks ago, disgruntled forestry workers wrecked the office of the regional administration's chairman.

Above all, in terms of immediate and future danger, young people, including many with higher education, will have great difficulty in finding work unless they agree to join the one concern which is prospering in Calabria. They must become killers or informants for the new Mafia.

Calabria has never in its frequently violent history suffered anything comparable to its modern Mafia. The old organization, now defeated by

more modern groups, was essentially rustic and regarded as a rather backward, distant cousin of the Sicilian Mafia. Now, however, the Calabrian Mafia is a power in its own right.

Unlike the state, it has a taxation system which works without flaw: protection money is said to be paid at all levels of society. Earlier this year Signor Rocco Gatto, a miller in the town of Gioiosa Jonica, refused to pay protection money and said so in public. He was shot.

Shortly before, a Communist youth, aged 16, had been killed after speaking out against the Mafia during an election campaign.

In the Crotona area, the Mafia is said to have a highly prosperous arms traffic; elsewhere, apart from cigarettes and drugs, it is said to be deep in diamond smuggling. Industrial projects such as the ill-conceived steel mill at Gioia Tauro, on which the equivalent of £200m has already been spent, provide a constant supply of money. The Mafia is said to control tendering down to the level of individuals who own a single lorry.

Calabria is already one of Italy's poorest regions and one of the poorest in Europe. It is held back by economic expansion. Cases are known of people with a few thousand pounds to invest which they are afraid to use because they do not know what share the Mafia will demand.

Murder charge laid in Orly hijacking case

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Oct 3

Jacques Robert, who was arrested by French police when they stormed a hijacked Caravelle belonging to Air Inter at Orly airport on Friday night, was today charged with a series of offences concerning the incident.

Brought handcuffed before the examining magistrate, he was charged with seizing the aircraft, murder, attempted murder, particularly of law officers, and of taking hostages. The murder charge in this case carries the death penalty.

During the half-hour hearing M. Robert said that he had tried to shoot a policeman with his pistol but that the gun had not gone off. He said he had accidentally released the grenade that killed one passenger.

Pre-election atmosphere as French parliamentary session starts

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Oct 3

The last session of the National Assembly before the March elections opened today with electioneering in the air. Yet great parliamentary battles, such as the one over capital gains tax last year and over direct elections to the European Parliament this year, are unlikely.

Deputies, as several commentators note today, have a paralysing effect on the deputies; first, because 100 of the present 475-strong Assembly will not return after the elections through defeat or retirement and, second, because the main business before the deputies will be the 1978 Budget.

Most of them regard this as a purely formal exercise. The Budget is bound to be completely re-cast after the elections, whether or not the Left wins.

The efficiency of the Mafia is clearly one of its attractions for young people. The effect of the relationship between criminal violence and youth is now being seen in national terms.

First, there is the possible threat of another Calabrian uprising. As a Calabrian priest says: "If somebody chooses to blow on the ashes, they will take fire."

The second consideration is the rise of a system of social control in Calabria as simply the extreme symptom of a national sickness. Where connivance, petty corruption and the client system are general, the particular violence of Calabrian troubles can look almost natural.

Finally, and probably most important, on the national level, is the reinforcement that southern youth is providing for violence in northern and central Italy. Many of the most violent students in northern universities and in Rome are said to come from the south.

These young people are reasonably contained while they remain in the south. When they head north and the traditional barriers are removed, they feel more deeply and react more readily to the unpleasant fact that the economic future holds little or nothing for them.

A Calabrian politician says: "Student violence elsewhere in the country will not be stopped until the problem has been met here."

New Bill to entitle Spaniards to legal aid

From Our Own Correspondent
Madrid, Oct 3

The Spanish Government today introduced a Bill to give Spaniards the right to demand the presence of a lawyer as soon as they are arrested by the police and before they are charged.

At the same time the Government submitted to the Cortes its proposal for a new law on amnesty. The amnesty question is likely to attempt to give the Centre Democratic Union (UCD), the party of Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, to win the support of the Basque and Catalan home-rule block in Parliament on other issues.

In view of the divisions within his own party, Señor Suárez is thought to be eager to bring one or more Basque or Catalan ministers into his Government to form a coalition with enough votes in the Cortes to guarantee a majority even if some of the UCD factions break away.

Señor Antonio Fornis, president of the Senate, criticized in a speech on Sunday the proposal of Señor Santiago Carrillo, the Spanish Communist Party leader, for the formation of a "government of concentration," or coalition government, incorporating the Communists.

A political system can only be consolidated when it offers alternatives. Furthermore it is not possible because neither the UCD nor the PSOE (Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, the principal parliamentary opposition) wants it.

They also realize that their own unity is still too fragile to enable them to indulge in speculation about a redistribution of the cards in the political game. The emergence, at some future date, of an alternative centre-left majority in the country.

The Communist strategy, which was based on the solidity of the coalition between Socialists and Communists, has been thrown badly off balance by their antagonism.

President Giscard d'Estaing, whose analysis of the political situation has been vindicated by the rift in the Union of the Left, has carefully refrained from comment and has recommended the greatest discretion to his ministers. He remains above the fray and waits for the time when it may be possible to prepare the ground for a new centre-left majority.

Dr Soares argues case for an enlarged Community

From Michael Hornsby
Lisbon, Oct 3

The view that further enlargement of the EEC must necessarily lead to its becoming a more loosely knit organization was challenged today by Dr Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, in a speech to the College of Europe in Brussels.

It was false to suggest, he argued, that the EEC must choose between "enlargement" and "deepening", that is, greater institutional integration. On the contrary, one was inconceivable without the other, he said.

It is only to an economically and politically solid and coherent Community that Portugal and, I am sure, the other candidate countries as well, will wish to accede," he said. In addition to Portugal, Greece and Spain have also applied to join the EEC.

Dr Soares said he welcomed the European Commission's

unannounced intention of putting forward new proposals on economic and monetary union. Portugal accepted the "evolution" that economic and monetary union implied.

Dr Soares also appeared to be arguing in favour of some kind of restructuring of Portugal's economy with the help of the EEC. "We believe it is in our interest, as well as in the Community's, to begin progressively to tackle the problems so as to make our assimilation into the institutions and mechanisms of the community as swift and as harmonious as possible," he said.

He also emphasized the political importance of EEC membership to Portugal. Membership was "an indispensable condition for which we would provide a solid bulwark for our recently established democratic institutions and the irreversible path for a destiny that we wish to share," he said.

Austria will tax those passing through by road

From Our Own Correspondent
Vienna, Oct 3

Austria is to introduce a transit tax on all those passing through the country by road. It is one of many new levies, taxes and austerity measures announced today after the ruling Socialist Party won convincingly in the Burgenland state election yesterday.

Among the measures aimed at balancing the budget is a value-added luxury tax of 30 per cent extending as far as high fidelity stereo sets and car radios, as well as all new cars.

The new transit levy will apply from the middle of next year, but its size has not been announced.

Rome police use tear gas after leftist's funeral

Rome, Oct 3.—Riot police fired tear gas grenades today to disperse thousands of leftists who tried to attack a favourite

grave of a murdered left-winger.

The leftists, with handkerchiefs tied over their faces in preparation for a tear-gas attack, left the funeral of Walter Rossi, aged 20, who was shot on Friday night by neo-fascists, and went to a hill used by right-wingers for meetings.

Six armoured lorries loaded with police barred their way and opened fire with tear gas. Several people were trampled by the fleeing crowd. —Reuters.

Synod told of potential in African Christianity

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Oct 3

The potential weight of African Christianity in the future of the Roman Catholic Church, one of the Pope's favourite hopes, was strongly expressed today by Cardinal Oranga, Archbishop of Nairobi. "We must," he said, "take ourselves seriously."

The Cardinal was on one of 19 speakers this morning at the Vatican's International Synod of Bishops. He said that because religion and culture in Africa were never separated, the continent's cultures possessed "seeds of the word" that could make a tremendous

contribution to the universal church.

Before the second Vatican Council, the Cardinal said, African culture and religious heritage was seen as something to be set aside once evangelization had started. The Council had created a new and more dynamic image in which Christ was seen as the new sower who has already planted seed in Africa's cultural tradition, seeds that could produce flowers wherever sown.

Speaking on the synod's main subject of catechesis (instruction given to a new convert before baptism), he said the small Christian community as the proper basis for teaching and advancing Christianity.

OVERSEAS

Israel pins hopes on Dayan-Carter talks

From Michael Horne
Jerusalem, Oct 3

Israel, deeply depressed by what it regards as the deplorable shift of American sympathy towards the Arabs, played in yesterday's joint United States-Soviet statement on the Middle East, hopes Mr Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, can reverse the trend at a meeting with President Carter in Washington on Wednesday.

Government sources here told us that if Mr Carter fails to take heed of the Israeli view over the Palestinian issue, efforts to resume the Middle East peace conference in Geneva are doomed.

The joint statement calls for a settlement ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. A formula which Israeli leaders could lead to the establishment of an independent state ruled by the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Israeli thinking is turning towards the prospect of confrontation with the United States and how Israel might withstand American pressure. The general view is that while Israel can expect substantial political pressure, Washington would support the United States and its economic or military aid.

Government circles have raised the possibility of the formation of a national government. However the idea has been rejected by the Labour Opposition, which is warning of time in blaming Mr Begin's government for the deterioration in American sympathy.

The Israeli Prime Minister, who has been in hospital since Friday suffering from exhaustion, which is warning of a "good condition" although suffering from inflammation of the heart lining, possibly due to excessive physical effort. Mr Begin, aged 64, is expected to leave hospital on Wednesday, in time to chair a special Cabinet

meeting which is expected to follow Wednesday's talks between Mr Dayan and President Carter.

There is no doubt that the Government regards the joint United States-Soviet statement as a betrayal by the American Administration of Israel's interests—probably it is believed here in return for deals over areas, for instance, for Arab oil supplies and Soviet concessions in the strategic oil routes of the Middle East.

The Israeli view is that the United States has clearly indicated that if it cannot persuade the Arabs to make any concessions then it must force concessions on the Israelis.

It is argued that the joint statement marks a departure from the United States from its commitment to the UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 194 as the sole basis for a negotiated Geneva conference.

Israel says it has made practical concessions in favour of the Geneva conference, accepting the idea of having Palestinians in a Jordanian delegation. However, it is prepared to take any counter proposal that could lead to the establishment of a separate Palestinian state.

"If the United States insists on independent Palestinian representation at Geneva, it is all lost," an Israeli official said today.

Independent Palestinian attendance at the conference could only mean, according to Israel, either a breakdown of the conference or the establishment of a separate Palestinian state.

Mr Begin today discussed a joint American-Soviet statement with Mr Yassir Arafat, chairman of the PLO. Earlier Egyptian and Palestinian officials also welcomed the statement.

Leading article, page 1

Former police chief leaves jail to fly home

Hongkong, Oct 3.—Mr Peter Godber, a former chief superintendent of the Hongkong police force, left by air for England today after serving 31 months in jail. He has a house in Sussex.

He refused to talk to the 80 reporters pressed against police barricades outside the hilltop prison of Siu-Lan when he walked out to freedom this morning. Described as a model prisoner, he was released 17 months earlier than his sentence for good behaviour.

Mr Godber was jailed in 1975 for corruptly accepting 25,000 Hongkong dollars (about £2,800) from a Chinese police officer for helping him to get a senior posting and for related conspiracy. —Reuters.

New intensity in disarmament talks at Geneva

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Oct 3

With the resumption, today, of talks between the United States, Britain and Russia on comprehensive test ban, disarmament negotiations have attained an unprecedented intensity.

One set of talks, which progress said to be satisfactory, is on prohibiting deep-sea testing. Another is banning radiological weapons. Most important of all is the strategic arms limitation negotiations, now returned to the delegations here for settlement of secondary issues.

Agreement to replace the one that expired today.

US Senate in tug of war over price of gas

From David Cross
Washington, Oct 3

Senators today began a three-week of wrangling over one of the cornerstones of President Carter's energy conservation programme, the future level of natural gas prices.

The long and confused debate, which has already led to the first all-night sitting by Senators since the early 1950s, has developed into a tug of war between supporters and opponents of Mr Carter's suggestion that existing price limits should be continued and in some cases extended.

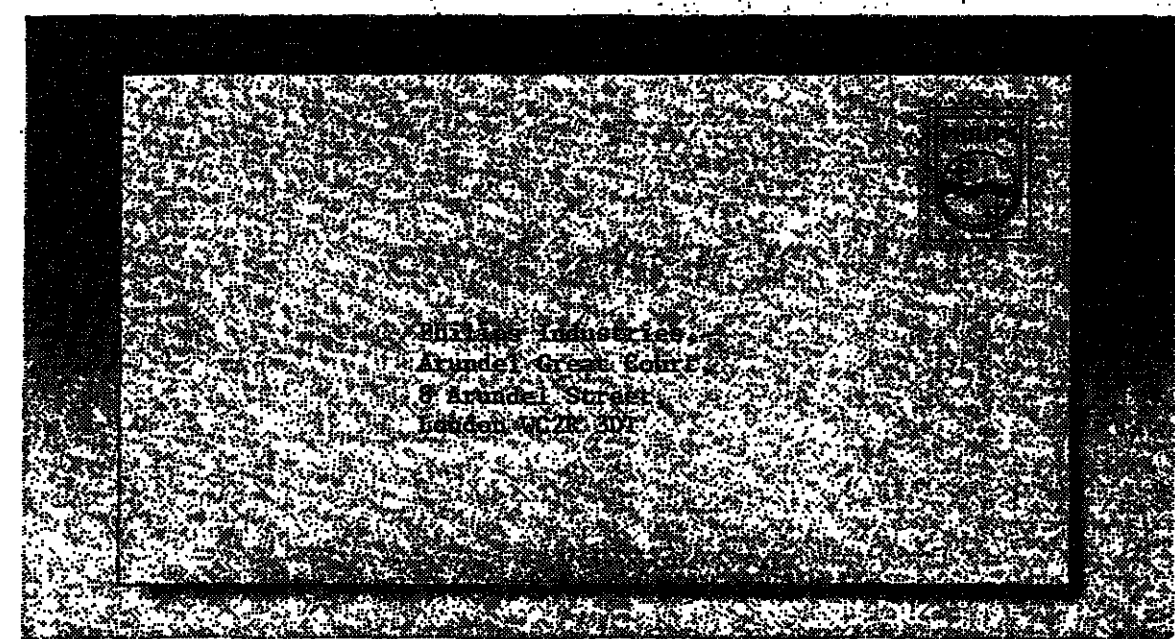
Opponents of the plan, many of them representing producer states, are calling for the price limits to be lifted. They argue that the price of natural gas has already risen by 500 per cent over the past

six years, and that if industry has its way consumers will have to pay an extra \$70,000 (£40,000) to heat their homes in the middle of the next decade.

His speech seemed to have little impact on Senate opponents, who have been persistently lobbied by representatives of the oil and gas industry. Indeed, support for the President appears to be waning as the debate drags on.

Nevertheless, Senator James Abourezk of South Dakota has so far succeeded in preventing the issue from going to a vote by tabling hundreds of amendments, each of which he claims to be cleared by a time-consuming roll call.

Several changes have been made to end the filibuster, which would allow the federal regulatory prices to continue temporarily, albeit at high levels, until at present 80 per cent of those suggestions are satisfied. Mr Abourezk and his supporters.



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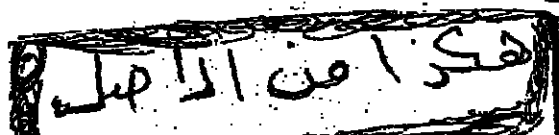
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OVERSEAS

Rhodesian guerrillas postpone talks on formation of political party to fight election

From Nicholas Ashford
Lusaka, Oct 3

The Patriotic Front, the Rhodesian African nationalist organization which is fighting the guerrilla war against Mr Ian Smith's Government, today postponed an important meeting which had been called to discuss the unification of the Front's two wings, the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu) and the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu).

The meeting was to have been attended by the organization's two leaders, Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, as well as other members of the Front's 10-man coordinating committee.

The postponement followed the weekend announcement that talks had taken place in Lusaka the previous Sunday between President Kaunda of Zambia and Mr Smith. The postponed meeting is now due to take place on October 15.

The meeting was to have discussed the transformation of

the Patriotic Front from a confederal organization into a single political party which would contest elections held on the basis of the Anglo-American settlement proposals. This would mean the eventual disbandment of Zapu and Zanu as separate entities.

The meeting was postponed at the request of Zanu whose leader, Mr Mugabe, failed to arrive in Lusaka from Maputo last night. A Zanu spokesman, Mr Rugare Gumbo, said Mr Mugabe's absence was due to pressure to visit the Zambian leader, Mr Kaunda, who was described as cordial talks lasting more than six hours in President Kaunda's official residence eight days ago.

Mr Mugabe is understood to

be concerned about the secret meeting and the fact that he was not informed about it. Leaders of the "front line" African states were advised of the meeting after Mr Smith's departure as were the British and American Governments.

The secrecy surrounding the meeting has raised fears within Zanu that Mr Smith was trying to persuade President Kaunda to back a settlement plan that would include Mr Nkomo's Zapu but exclude the more militant Zanu. Mr Nkomo was in Lusaka at the time of the Smith-Kaunda talks but he has denied that he attended them or was even informed about them.

Johannesburg, Oct 3.—Mr Mugabe will accept no ceasefire in Rhodesia until Mr Smith resigns, he told the *Rand Daily Mail* in an interview published today.

He said he opposed the Anglo-American proposals for a ceasefire and the "neutralization" of the guerrilla forces.

Long call-up seen as aid to S African economy

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Oct 3

South Africa's doubling of national service to two years, as announced last April, is intended not only to counter terrorism, but also to reduce the economic disruption caused by the present one-year system.

Lieutenant-General J. R. Dutton, Chief of Staff Operations in the defence forces, said today.

In an "insurgency environment" a man serving two years would give better service than two men serving one year, he said. And the extension made economic sense because there would be less disruption of business and families with reduction of the continuous call-up of the citizen force.

General Dutton said that South Africa was engaged in a war and the defence forces were its insurance policy. But the premiums to be paid were national service and the withholding of certain sensitive information from the press.

In a broadcast last night Mr Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Justice and Police, named the British Council of Churches as one of several religious organizations that had given donations to the Black Community Programme.

The minister alleged that in the past 10 years the Black Consciousness movement had developed into a black power movement and had been infiltrated by members of the banned African National Congress. Referring to the contributions from foreign churches and from the International University Exchange Fund, he said it was not illegal for the Black Community Programme or the Zimela Trust to receive money from overseas, but the way the money was used had changed Black Consciousness into black power.



Mrs Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India, takes leave of her friends as she is arrested to face charges of corruption by police in Delhi.

Mr Bhutto attacks delay of elections

From Richard Wigg
Lahore, Oct 3

Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, attacked General Zia-ul-Haq, head of the Pakistan military regime here today for his "enigmatic and subjective" decision to postpone this month's general election indefinitely. He said it would plunge the country into an even graver crisis.

"You don't deny to 70 million Pakistanis the right to choose a single individual," Mr Bhutto told foreign correspondents during a brief adjournment in the Lahore High Court hearing of the political murder case in which he is one of the accused.

Mr Bhutto, who was deposed by the armed forces on July 5, said he did not accept the Chief Martial Law Administrator as the legitimate government of Pakistan.

Referring to the "arbitrariness" of General Zia's decision, Mr Bhutto recalled that only three days before the world through the United Nations General Assembly of General Zia's "firm resolve" to hold elections scheduled and transfer power to a civilian government soon after. The statement was made in New York by Mr Agia Shahi, the senior Foreign Ministry official in the military government.

Mr Bhutto warned Pakistan's military rulers that if they became fully involved in politics the unity of the armed forces would be affected. But he was careful to add: "I am

not saying what will happen. I am observing what has happened in other countries," a reference to fighting among military units in Bangladesh.

Mr Bhutto urged his People's Party supporters to show "good table manners" and not provide any unnecessary provocation for the Army. That would be to fall into a booby trap. Their maximum endeavour should be, to stay united and await events.

Asked about the charges he faces, the former Prime Minister replied: "I have been framed. The whole plan is to get me out of the way so that my political leadership is not a liability to the country. The charges have been fabricated and that is why I am here now."

Hasan Akhtar writes from Islamabad: General Zia today refused to speculate on a new date for the elections.

General Zia had been asked by reporters when the postponed elections would be held. He replied: "I wish I knew the answer." He added: "I demand from the High Court and the nation also expect that they will decide as soon as possible" the case involving Mr Bhutto.

The military leader's reason for postponing the elections due on October 18 was that the court cases against the people's party leaders, including Mr Bhutto, should be decided first.

They are accused of crimes ranging from murder to abuse of their official positions and misappropriation of Government funds.

Indian to be UN man in Salisbury

From Michael Leapman
New York, Oct 3

Dr Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, is preparing to announce this week the appointment of General Prem Chand, a retired Indian Army officer, as the United Nations representative in the Rhodesian negotiations. General Chand, who is 61, commanded United Nations Forces in the Congo in 1962 and Cyprus in 1970.

He was sounded out for the job last week as the Security Council was discussing whether to approve the appointment of a mediator. There was a delay in reaching him, because he was on a walking tour of the Himalayas. When contacted, he agreed to serve and is expected in New York in time for the formal announcement of his appointment, or soon afterwards.

After discussions with Dr Waldheim and United Nations officials, he will then engage in talks with Lord Carver, the British special representative for Rhodesia, with whom he will be working closely. The aim is to get a ceasefire in the guerrilla war by producing a constitutional settlement satisfactory to the guerrillas.

It is hoped that Mr Ian Smith, leader of the Rhodesian Administration, will approve the settlement plan.

Smith-Kaunda talks 'at Zambian request'

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Oct 3

The Rhodesian Government last night said that Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, had been invited to Zambia for his recent talks with President Kaunda on the Anglo-American settlement proposals.

A spokesman said it was "quite untrue" that the discussions on September 25 had been held at Mr Smith's request. Mr Smith had been invited to Lusaka and had readily gone in his search for a settlement.

The spokesman said the London report that the highly-secret meeting had been arranged in conjunction with the South African, British and United States Governments was equally inaccurate. "These governments were not aware the meeting was taking place," he added.

Confirming that the seven hours of talks between the two leaders in State House, Lusaka, had centred on the settlement proposals, he denied there had been any mention of a return to Rhodesia by the joint leader of the Patriotic Front, Mr Joshua Nkomo. The Front is waging the guerrilla struggle.

He said the discussions were straightforward and constructive and had taken place in a friendly atmosphere, although inevitably there had been differences of viewpoint and approach.

The Rhodesian Government has expressed surprise at the British Government's rejection of an invitation by Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, to Field Marshal Lord Carver and the United Nations Rhodesia representative to visit this country.

Last week a British official was reported as saying that for Lord Carver, the Resident Commissioner-designate for Rhodesia, and thus the legal representative of the Queen, and for the United Nations envoy, representing the international community, to visit the Pretender Prime Minister of an illegal state was a "totally unacceptable idea."

A Rhodesian Government spokesman said today that Mr Smith made the invitation in terms of paragraph 11 (c) of the British White Paper in which it was stated specifically that the Secretary-General of the United Nations will be invited to appoint a representative to enter into discussions before the transition period with the British Resident Commissioner-designate and with all the parties with a view to establishing in detail the respective roles of all the forces in Rhodesia.

Munroreva attack: Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Rhodesian leader, last night accused President Kaunda of resorting to "cunning and irresponsible subterfuge."

Mr Botha to quit as Bantu Education Minister

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, Oct 3

Mr M. C. Botha, the South African Minister of Bantu Education and Administration, announced tonight that he will resign next month and will not defend his parliamentary seat.

He said he had intended to withdraw from politics in 1979, when the next election was due. Now that an early election had been called, he had decided to go now.

In the past two years Mr Botha has been at the centre of the controversy over the Bantu education system, which many blacks reject as inferior.

Privy Council to hear case of condemned boy

Kuala Lumpur, Oct 3.—A Chinese rubber planter, Mr Lim Thuan Heng, today filed an appeal to the Privy Council in London against the death sentence imposed on his 14-year-old son by the Penang High Court recently.

The boy, a secondary school student, was convicted on August 25 under the Internal Security Act, for unlawful possession of a pistol and ammunition.

The Federal Court, Malaysia's highest court, dismissed the boy's appeal against conviction and sentence last Saturday. Agency France-Press.

Abortive Bangladesh coup claimed 230 lives

Dacca, Oct 3.—President Ziaur Rahman, who in complete control in Bangladesh today after an abortive military uprising which, latest reports say, may have claimed more than 230 lives.

The only official word on yesterday's short-lived revolt has been that it was "carried out by disgruntled elements" in the armed forces and that it was quickly crushed.

But according to unofficial reports here, more than 230 people, mostly soldiers and some officers, were killed in the pre-dawn fighting which erupted in Dacca's main Army base and quickly spread to the airport—the scene of the Japan Air Lines (JAL) hijack drama.

The capital, however, was back to normal today and both the Dacca Army cantonment and the air base were quiet.

Ugandan says he had to kill fellow prisoners

Nairobi, Oct 3.—A Ugandan refugee living here says that he was forced to batter to death more than 20 fellow prisoners when in jail for about a month in Uganda two and a half years ago.

The refugee, Mr Jacob Mugisha, aged 36, gave a written account of his experiences to Associated Press and later expanded upon it orally. He said that one of the prisoners he killed was a friend.

While travel to Uganda by reporters is restricted, Mr Mugisha's account could not be confirmed, although it is consistent with those given by other Ugandans who have fled.

Mr Mugisha said that this was the favourite form of execution at the prison of the much-feared Public Safety Unit (PSU) on the Kampala-Jinja road.

Mr Mugisha said that he was arrested by the PSU on April 20, 1975, while on holiday from his job as a clerk at Barclays Bank in Kampala. He said he was accused of helping to steal 100,000 shillings (about £67,000) from his bank.

He said he was taken to the PSU "death camp" at Naguru and put in a cell.

After being taken to the cell, Mr Mugisha said, he was beaten unconscious. Two days

later, he said, he was selected to be killed that night with three other prisoners. He named them as Mr Fred Musoke, Mr Tom Gabaizi and Mr Luyumana.

About 9.30 pm the camp killer and two policemen began calling the four into the cell block's compound one by one, he said.

"I went out and was told I had been called to kill Murolo with a heavy, thick iron bar. I looked round and saw police with machine guns guarding us. I was shocked to see that I was going to have to kill my friend."

"I was ordered by the killer in a loud voice to beat him on the head. That's what I did. I beat him to death. Then they told me to put him in a Load Rover." He then killed the other two men.

Each of the men, he said, had his hands tied behind his back and his legs bound together.

"Before I left Naguru on May 24, 1975, I killed more than 20 people," Mr Mugisha said. Every night I was killing one or two people. There were other prisoners doing the same job. But I did the most.

More than 200 people were killed in this way during his time in the camp, Mr Mugisha estimated.—AP.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of **ALBIONROCK LITHOGRAPHIC CORPORATION**
Nature of business: Ship Owners and Charterers
PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR
In the Matter of **ALBIONROCK LITHOGRAPHIC CORPORATION**
Nature of business: Ship Owners and Charterers
I, **BATES, Official Receiver**, do hereby give notice that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at **11, Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 3DF**, on **TUESDAY, 18 October, 1977, at 10.30 a.m.** for the purpose of considering the appointment of a Liquidator.
The meeting will be held at the Court House, 11, Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 3DF, on **TUESDAY, 18 October, 1977, at 10.30 a.m.** for the purpose of considering the appointment of a Liquidator.
I, **BATES, Official Receiver**, do hereby give notice that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at **11, Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 3DF**, on **TUESDAY, 18 October, 1977, at 10.30 a.m.** for the purpose of considering the appointment of a Liquidator.
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CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF WATER
DEVELOPMENT
INVITATION TO TENDER
MONRASA AND COASTAL WATER SUPPLY PROJECT
The Government of Kenya invites tenders for the supply and delivery of Penstocks.
The Contract comprises the supply and delivery of penstocks of one metre diameter and 1.5 metres long, and two metres diameter and 1.5 metres long, for the intake of the Sabaki River about 40 km west of Mombasa. The penstocks will be used for the provision of the services of an engineer to check and maintain the penstocks and to commission it.
Tender documents are expected to be available from the 3 October 1977. The last date for receipt of tenders will be 12 October 1977 at 10.00 a.m. Firms who wish to be issued with tender documents should apply in writing to:
The Director
Water Development
Ministry of Water Development
P.O. Box 30621
Nairobi, Kenya.
Tender documents will be issued only against payment of a deposit of KSh. 10,000 (Ten thousand shillings) by a crossed cheque in favour of the Director of Water Development. The deposit will be refunded on receipt of the tender and completed tender form.
Tenders are advised that they will only be allowed to open tenders if they can satisfy the Director of Water Development as to their experience and competence to manufacture the penstocks concerned.
Tenders not considered qualified will also be returned.
E. A. NGUYA
Director Water Development
Ministry of Water Development.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

LUXEMBOURG HOUSEKEEPER
For divorced business woman. Small schoolgirl. Cleaning, ironing, cooking, laundry, etc. Must be French, reliable, honest, and good wages. Write to: **17 Grosvenor Park, London, W.16.6.**
BRITISH BUTLER
45, 15 year California, seeks post, interesting position more important than wages. Salary, experience, driving licence, references. Unpassed references.
BOX 1805 J. THE TIMES
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Care Industries require J Resident Caretaker for their main. Care of premises, maintenance, and cleaning. Must be reliable, honest, and good wages. Write to: **17 Grosvenor Park, London, W.16.6.**
CHAUFFEUR/EUSE REQUIRED
For international travel, preferably living North-West London. Must have Rolls-Royce experience. 40-hour week. Overtime by arrangement. Basic salary, £70 p.w. Telephone: **734 2810**, arrange appointment.

Cambodian leader shows his hand for first time

Peking, Oct 3.—Mr Pol Pot, Prime Minister of Cambodia, has admitted that there have been a number of border clashes involving neighbouring countries. He blamed them on enemies seeking to overthrow his country's communist Government.

The New China news agency today also quoted him as telling a press conference here yesterday that Cambodia's cities were evacuated after the Khmer Rouge takeover in April 1975, to force enemy spies into communist-controlled rural areas.

Foreign correspondents in Peking were not invited to the press conference, held during an official visit that has been

termed "a complete success." Mr Pol Pot said enemy agents in Cambodia had been smashed with the evacuation of the cities and those outside would not dare to take "reckless actions."

In the wake of a number of border clashes, it is impossible for them to attack and occupy Kampuchea (Cambodia) from outside," he added.

The first congress of the Communist Party, whose existence was disclosed officially only a few days ago, was held on September 30, 1976, with 21 delegates, including 14 peasant deputies, meeting in Phnom Penh. The congress adopted policies formulated by a committee set up in 1957.—Reuters.

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PAIR for Fontainebleau, France
Large house and garden. Two children, girl 10 and boy 12. Lady and gentleman. Salary £10,000 p.a. plus expenses. Write to: **17 Grosvenor Park, London, W.16.6.**
COOK/HOUSEKEEPER
For a large house in London. Salary £10,000 p.a. plus expenses. Write to: **17 Grosvenor Park, London, W.16.6.**
CHAUFFEUR/EUSE
For international travel, preferably living North-West London. Must have Rolls-Royce experience. 40-hour week. Overtime by arrangement. Basic salary, £70 p.w. Telephone: **734 2810**, arrange appointment.

NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.

Wanted mature woman housekeeper for a large, comfortable home in New Jersey. Good salary, good working conditions, good references. Write to: **17 Grosvenor Park, London, W.16.6.**

Samoa cricket match deaths

Suva, Fiji, Oct 3.—A cricket match organized by a Western Samoa church fund-raising committee ended in two deaths, according to the newspaper *Samoa Times*. Six men were arrested.

The match between the village of Faleava and Savano erupted into a fight after a wicket fell. Two Samoan players were stabbed repeatedly. They died before reaching hospital.

Pinochet curb on politics

Rancagua, Chile, Oct 3.—President Pinochet said in a speech here yesterday: "The political parties will not return. You may be sure of that."

Formerly various political groups had conceded their membership lists, he said, but now all such lists would have to be made known so that the members "cannot indulge in manoeuvres"—Agence France-Press.

COMPANY NOTICES

ROYAL-SUDAL NPAAT A.S.
On 20th September 1977, a company was formed under the laws of the Netherlands. The company is a public limited company. The registered office is at **ROYAL-SUDAL NPAAT A.S., P.O. Box 100, 1000 AA Amsterdam, The Netherlands.**

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Salary £3,000 p.a. for 20 hours p.w. (No private superannuation scheme). Hours to be negotiated on a regular basis 4 days a week including some evenings. Apply before 21 October to:
The Chairman, The Fawcett Society,
18-23 Albany Buildings,
39 Victoria St. S.W.1
Fuller details available on request.

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This job is ideally suited to a young Secretary who is a graduate of a leading university and has a strong interest in banking. The Bank's services in the City of London are extensive and offer a wide range of opportunities for advancement. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the bank's secretarial services. The salary is £25,000 p.a. plus a bonus. Apply to: **AMERICAN BANK, 17, Old Broad St., London EC2A 4EJ.**

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Secretarial skills are required. Must be a graduate of a leading university and have a strong interest in personnel. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's personnel services. The salary is £23,000-£40,000 p.a. plus a bonus. Apply to: **17, Old Broad St., London EC2A 4EJ.**

LEGAL SEC./P.A.
Needed for Senior Executive who deals with Company Law. Legal experience not essential. Salary £23,000-£40,000 p.a. plus a bonus. Apply to: **17, Old Broad St., London EC2A 4EJ.**

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To work for Senior Director of Fashion Company dealing with all aspects of the business. Must be a graduate of a leading university and have a strong interest in fashion. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's secretarial and administrative services. The salary is £23,000-£40,000 p.a. plus a bonus. Apply to: **17, Old Broad St., London EC2A 4EJ.**

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O'Brien keen to keep Alleged in training for next season's Arc

Alma, ch. f., by Shiny Teeth— Annotts (The Ocean), 8-11	W. Carson (A-1)	1
Watkins	J. Lynch (A-1)	32
Jan Gay	P. Eddy (B-1)	32

So Gifted has talent to carry Stoute's long run of success

reaches half century.

ALSO RAN: 5-1 Storms Affair
(4th), 7-1 Mr Playbards, 10-1 West-A-
Secret, 13-1 Tury Lodge, 35-1 Lager
Boy. 8 ran.

Change of luck at last for Cumani

4

Immediate future of Lauda uncertain

Brighton programme

5	003	All Rounder, W. H. Bass, 8-11	E. Nilde	15
6	0	Apple Prince, R. Hollinshead, 6-11	T. Ives	19
7	0	Blue Max, W. A. Stephenson, 8-11	T. O'Ryan	16
8	0000	Broad View, M. H. Eastery, 8-11	M. Birch	13
9	0	Darling, M. W. Eastery, 8-11	P. B. Birch	16
10	0000	Doublin Sun, C. Robinson, 8-11	J. Higgins	18
13	0000	Gold Snoveller, M. W. Eastery, 8-11	C. Dwyer	10
24	0004	Paroysa, J. Enderington, 8-11	B. Hood	5
29	000	Sam Buster, K. Mitchell, 8-11	S. Webster	3

Newcastle programme

Bath results

1.30 (1.35) **DONNINGTON STAKES**
(1d Iv 1: 2-y-o: \$275; 1m 8yd.)
Don Comiso, gr c. by Duke of
Ragusa—Donna (Sir H. Ingram).

ALSO RAN: 7-2 Sav Rosebush, 9-3
Picador Girl, 8-1 Mineral Rights,
Portia Master, Tropical Edition, 16-1 Ro-
sanna, 10-1 Hecate, 10-1 Loo-
Agass, 14-1 Mervin, 35-1 Morning Echo,
Nova Galaxy, Prince Venture, Shemals,
Sporting Wife, Kings Cottage, 18 run.

Bath result

Devonshire, 4-9-13
 W. Carson (5-6-1) ?
 Reine Beau, V. Lynch (11-1) 3/4
 God Asolus V. Woods (25-1) 3/4
 ALSO Ran: 11-4 Thersopool (45-1)
 8-1 Canlie, 20-1 Rivoli, 4-10-1
 Major, Form Land, Laerically, 9 run
 TOTE: Win, 150; places, 11s, 18s.
 1-1-13, W. Hagg, 1-1-13
 Warror, Jay Wood, 14 ran.
 TOTE: Win, 60s; places, 51p, £1.50,
 1.88s; dual, forecast, 18s. Dual fore-
 cast was winner with any other winner.
 P. Walwyn at Lambourn, 6s, 14s.
 Lonely Voice did not run.
 S.30 (5.34) COUNTY STAKES (Div
 1-1-13, W. Hagg, 1-1-13)

3	330021	Whistling Jenny (D), M. W. Embury, 9-1	.....	E. Hyde	4
4	00400	Brandon S. Nesbit, 8-11	.....	T. Ives	3
4-6 Grisma, 9-4 Whistling Jenny, 5-1 Friendly Fun, 5-1 Sweden.					

Brighton selections

3	230021	Whistling Jimmy (D), M. W. Smothery, 9-1	.....	E, Hide	4
4	00400	Brendan S. Nashiz, 8-11	.....	T. Ives	3
	4-6	Girama, 9-4 Whistling Joany, 5-1 Friendly Fun, 55-1 Brendan,			

4.15 GRENVILLE HAND

5-1 Taropops, 7-2 Kings Singer, 4-1 Startups, 11-8 Spartacus, 8-1 Silver Guard, 10-1 Mummy's Rascal, 12-1 others.

Newcastle selections

By Our Racing Staff

Newcastle selections

4.45 Starlingo.

Mouragula, Steel Mine, Arctic Dog.
Grays Chub. 13 ran.
TOTAL: Win. 50¢; places. 15¢. 24¢.
39¢; dual forecast \$3.49. St. sh hd.
R. Vibert at Wapasee.

Winifreda B. Raymond (11-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 15-8 Ray Red Prince,
5-1 Oakenash (4th), 10-1 Gillygoose.
6 ran.
TOTAL: Win. 50¢; places. 21¢. 23¢.

Wolverhampton

Morning Miss ... F. Durr (100-30) 3
 ALSO RAN: 5-1 Musical Lady, 11-2
 Pretty Girl, 20-1 Beron De Holland
 (4th), Sweet and Shiny, Star Music,
 Royal Visit. 9 ran.
 TOTAL: Win. \$20; places, 15p. 18p.
 1st dual, 1st place, D. H. Durr
 longer at Pontypriod, G. 2l. Winner
 bought in for 750 guineas.

Cap (2935: 1st m 50yd)
Solo Reign, b f. by Space
Homerone, 4-8-7 .. T. Ives

3.30 (3.34) **SOLDANURU HIA** (4th)
 11-2-9-6 maiden fillet: (2220; 58)
 Mrs Bacon b by Balliol
 Darbyth, 9-11-8 Biddow (4-1)
 10-10-8 1st dam: 100-50
 Sverns G. Lewis (15-8 fav)
ALSO RAN: 8-1 **Storling Lark** (4th),
 10-1 **Sweet Carnes**, 13-1 **Waveriana**,
 20-1 **Acacada**, 33-1 **Glamoude**, Decoy

Charity Deal, 25-1 Potamo, 35-1 Royal
 Deal, 8 ran.
TOTE: Win, 31.49; places, 59p,
 13p, 13p; dual forecast, 1.72 Decoy
 5mit, at Bishop Auckland, 1.9, 1.

3.18 (3.18) **DIRELTON HANDICAP**
 (2622; 1.5m)

TOTE: Win. 58p; places,
11p; dual forecast, 51.55. L
at Newmarket. 2nd L. 1st L.

Folkestone
1.45 (1.46) ROLVENDI

Course (p). Principally Call. Balloon.
33-1 Anna Dromedary. Derry Town. 11 ran.
NOTE: Wm 15p: places. 11p. 45p.
51p: dual forecast. 25p. P. Walwyn
at Lambourn. 21. 11.

3.15 (3.17) HAWTHURST ALL-AGED
STAKES (£750: 7f)
Lord Rochester. b c, by Tudor Music

Alma achieves another win for the Queen

Swallow HN 15-1. S. Echols (16-1) 2
ALSO RAN: 9-2 River Hawk (4th),
16-10 Knight, 50-1 Amazon Ruler,
Roughwater, 1st.
TOTAL: Wm. 25th place, 18p. 15p;
dual forecast. 25p. H. Crill 1st New-
market, 1st 44, New Bridge did not
run.

Jockeys' riding plans

1st. and Victoria, 41. 3. 1920.
at Midhurst. 41. 3.

3.45 (3.48) BARNDOUGLE HAND-
CAP (2-7-0: 8994: 1m)
Duchess, b f, by Electricity—Little
Angel (J. Hasboun), 8-4

Stewards J. S. Jones (15-2)
Dior Queen E. Lloyd (13-2)
Blow Queen E. Lloyd (9-2) (13-2)

1920. 1

Joshua Quincy

(DIV 1: 3-9-0: 4700: 77)
 Martial Game, b. c. by Double-U-
 Jay-House (P. Shaw), 8-9
 6-Young (6-1)
 Silver Lord E. Hine (12-5-8)
 The Celtics - A. Kambler (7-2)

ALSO RAN: 10-1 Dancin' Roy
 Junior Becks, 10-1
 14-1
 14-1
 14-1

New light on the response of ani-
 mals to stress may come from re-
 search showing that stress causes
 the release of a recently dis-
 covered natural substance with
 pain-killing properties. It is well

TOTE: Wn. 43c; places, 18c.

[illegible]

From: R23.55. TREBLE: Polaris
Duckies and Mental Game, 2018.

... ..

Science report

Endocrinology: New stress hormone

ACTH. Neither hormone was found in the blood of stressed rats whose pituitaries had been removed.

It is not known what part the new hormone plays in the re-

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ON'T THROW AWAY THE GAINS

Healey deserves admiration for his stamina and his age. For the last years at least he has been a basically hostile Labour conference and won against the way in which he has undressed and struck to his riling policy. He has played a major role in establishing a monetary policy at a time when the Government is presiding over a most dramatic improvement in the national and external financial position of the country.

With his own reputation, together with the future course of the economy and the immediate electoral fortunes of the Government, are at another point. The indicated vision of the Labour Party is in favour of some stimulus for the economy this year next, but that the revival by action should be slow and steady, not rushed and dramatic, so far as this form of words resents his policy and that of the Government, it is objectionable.

Although the main political issue for some further measures of fiscal stimulation comes from the Labour Party, the left of the Labour Party from economists of a neo-classical cast of mind, anything Mr Healey feels able to do in autumn or next spring in

the way of direct fiscal stimulation will only be a sop in their direction. If the Chancellor is thinking in terms of measures which would have the effect of cutting taxes by, say, £1,000m, in terms of the traditional Treasury view of the economy it would require cuts of about twenty times this size to hold out the prospect of reducing unemployment to levels acceptable to the trades union movement. Since any such package would destroy at a stroke the confidence being gradually restored in the British economy and the pound, it is clear that the traditional way of inflating out of a recession would represent nothing except a quick way to disaster.

This is quite apart from the consequences that such a policy would surely have for the rate of price inflation. The substantial reduction in the rate of price inflation and the prospect that it will fall further in the coming months has, however, tended to obscure the fact that price rises are still at an unacceptable level. Neither in absolute terms, nor in terms of our performance relative to the other main industrial countries is a rate of price inflation at a level of 10 per cent acceptable. Even for the Labour Party, in considering its short-term election strategy, it will still be the case next year that rising prices will be a greater electoral liability than rising unemployment.

The ultimate test of Mr

Healey's policy will, therefore, be whether it produces a continuation of the downward trend of prices. So far this year the Government can point with a sense of achievement to the fact that the targets for monetary aggregates have been observed. They can also claim that the level, or at least the timing, of wage demands has been influenced by the steps they have taken to encourage an orderly return to collective bargaining. All of this, however, will be put at risk if monetary policy is suddenly relaxed next year.

In the present early stage of experience with monetary targets it is important that too rigid attitudes and frameworks should not be adopted for their own sake. It is, however, doubtful whether a greatly relaxed fiscal policy can be contained within monetary guidelines that offer the hope of a continued fall in the rate of price inflation, if at the same time over the next eighteen months there is any substantial recovery in the real economy. We are still not far enough through this financial year to say with any certainty where in the critical range of 9 to 13 per cent this year's money supply expansion will come. The targets when they are set for next year should be lower; having travelled some way along the road of stabilizing the money supply, it would be tragic if Mr Healey were to retrace his steps now.

UNITED STATES POLICY AND ISRAEL

joint statement from the American and Soviet governments on the Middle East is nothing to be welcomed. The two are co-chairmen of the new Peace Conference; without a degree of understanding between them it is difficult to see how the Conference can be reconvened, and virtually impossible to see how it could make any progress. Dr Kissinger's policy of making the United States the mediator between Arabs and Israelis was surprisingly successful in extending American influence in the Middle East, and successful also in defusing the immediate crisis after the war of October 1973.

With the Sinai Agreement of November 1975 that policy exhausted its capacity for advancing the cause of peace—indeed many would argue that although that agreement made a new war less likely in the near future it also, by the trust it sowed between the Arab states, made an overall settlement more difficult to achieve. In any case, there is little doubt that the total exclusion of the Soviet Union from the process has been one of the factors preventing further progress since then.

Visit influence in the Arab world may have declined, but it remains almost certainly strong enough to block any settlement which the Kremlin strongly supports. Israelis and their friends in the West have often been tempted to portray the Soviet Union as fundamentally hostile to any peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, constantly and irresponsibly urging the Arabs to adopt more extreme and transient policies. But both a public record and what has been revealed of private Arab contacts (for instance by Ummad Haykal in *The Road to Ramadan*) suggest that this is far too simplistic a view. Indeed Israel's own most distinguished strategist, Mrs Galla Golan, who is Director of the Soviet and Eastern European Research Centre at the Hebrew University, concluded in a book published after this year that "the Soviet Union's success in its Middle East policy was an increasingly anti-American, pro-radical line in the region, which threatened but did

not actually replace the basic Soviet interest in and even pursuit of a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli crisis." In other words, American success in reducing Soviet influence in the Middle East was purchased at the expense of Soviet cooperation in the achievement of peace.

This point has evidently been understood by the Carter Administration, which seems to have come to the conclusion that, on the one hand it can now deal with the Soviet Union in the Middle East from a position of strength, while on the other continued failure to make progress towards peace may soon jeopardise the American gains made so far.

The consequent rapprochement has been greeted with dismay in Israel, where America (in spite of its massive economic and military aid to Israel) is perceived as at best neutral, and the Soviet Union as an implacable enemy. The Israelis fear that the superpowers are ganging up to impose on them a settlement which they believe would be suicidal, since it would involve withdrawal from what they have convinced themselves are the only defensible borders for their state—the Golan Heights, the Jordan Valley and the Straits of Tiran—and recognition of a Palestinian state run by a group of terrorists sworn to their destruction.

They base their fears partly on the fact that a joint statement has been issued at all, and partly on its reference to the Palestinians' "legitimate rights" (where previously the United States recognized only "legitimate interests"), its insistence on the need for the participation of Palestinian representatives in the Geneva Conference, and its omission of any reference to Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, on the basis of which the Geneva Conference was originally convened.

In reply, the Americans can point out that they have obtained from the Russians a statement which does not refer by name to the Palestine Liberation Organization and which calls only for "withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the 1967 conflict", without the crucial definite article. They can add that the "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" are not defined, so that the United

States is still not committed to insisting on an independent Palestinian state but only on a "homeland", and that their commitment not to establish direct relations with the PLO until it recognizes Israel's right to exist, and not to invite the PLO to Geneva without Israel's consent, remains intact.

Behind these points of detail, however, the Israelis are right to detect a growing unanimity of world opinion which insists that they should be willing to accept now an offer they would certainly have jumped at had it been made to them any time before June 1967: peace with their neighbours, recognition of their existence within the frontiers they had then, with some minor rectifications whose net effect would definitely be in their favour, plus no doubt demilitarization of substantial frontier zones with United Nations supervision, early warning systems and whatever international guarantees they think worth having. The one issue which that consensus does not include is the future of Jerusalem, on which there is certainly no uniformity of world view.

Unfortunately it is increasingly clear that such an offer is not now acceptable either to the present Israeli government, or to the opposition or to the majority of the Israeli electorate. President Carter's Middle East policy appears to be running full steam towards a brick wall. He will soon be faced with the choice of either stopping dead and offering embarrassed apologies to his passengers or attempting to remove the brick wall by leverage, using Israel's acute dependence on American support. So far he has ruled out the second choice, and indeed he has good grounds for fearing that it would have the opposite to the desired effect. Yet the fact that American policy is to preserve Israel behind her 1967 frontiers, and that Israel's policy is to preserve those 1967 gains she believes to be essential for national defence, has created an inescapable conflict between the policy of the United States and the policy of Israel.

"Yom Kippur and After: The Soviet Union and the Middle East Crisis," Cambridge University Press, £9.00.

Industry and education

on the President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, I was somewhat disappointed at a rather low key reception given to the media by the Tenth Report on the Expenditure Committee—on "Attainments of the School Tower." Perhaps it was overshadowed by the publication of the report, which is a pity for one is much to be learnt from a document. Certainly much of a ground is covered by the subject of the widely publicized Government's report. However, in any respect, this latest Report is one incentive and to the point.

For instance, whilst it makes a case for an inquiry into the teaching of mathematics, it also makes constructive recommendations where a particular problem has already been identified, namely its call for a reduction in the number of syllabuses offered in "A" level mathematics. This recommendation echoes a view expressed for some time by my fellow engineers both in industry and in the academic world. It also supports the conclusions of the recent Irish Association inquiry. I only hope that the responsible will act to take heed of these recommendations, coming as they do from many different quarters. I was also pleased to see the report call for an examination of the experience of industry in the design and the institution of

announced a "Teacher Fellowships in Engineering" scheme to give teachers the chance of spending a term in industry working with engineering teams. The scheme is being well received by industry, local authorities and, most importantly, by the teachers themselves, and to yet another indication that the climate is right for generating a much closer working relationship between schools and industry. Much has been said and written about this subject and I believe the time has come for more positive action. This Report in particular makes many recommendations to which those of us in education, industry and government would be well advised to respond.

Yours sincerely,
RUGBY FORD,
The President,
The Institution of Mechanical Engineers,
1 Birdcage Walk,
Westminster, SW2.
September 30.

Direct grant schools

From Mr James Cobbin.
Sir, As Chairman of the Direct Grant Joint Committee I warmly welcome the statement of Mr St. John-Stevens on the "restoration" of the direct grant schools. It is a kind of positive thinking for which those of us who have worked in these schools have long been waiting.

The new scheme of "assisted places" will oblige many of the criticisms that were levelled against the old direct grant system. In it, help will be given to the parent rather than to the school—and only to the parent in so far as he is in need of help. It is flexible in that it is not necessarily tied to selection at the age of eleven. It contains provision for bringing in schools that were not formerly on the direct grant list, and this will extend the opportunity for parental choice. Above all, it will ensure that what these schools have to offer will be available to able boys and girls from every kind of background.

The direct grant schools themselves have no wish to become the pawns of party politics. There are welcome signs that the rigid frontage that has bedevilled education in recent years is beginning to break down. Those of us who believe that a policy of fruitful cooperation between the independent and the maintained sectors of education is in the interests both of the child, the school and the nation will hope, with Mr St. John-Stevens, that members of all political parties, instead of rushing to take up prepared positions, will consider this scheme on its merits.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES COBBIN,
The Old Vicarage,
Stevenson,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire.

Claim to a united Ireland

From Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien

Sir, Sir Andrew Gilchrist (September 28), as a former Ambassador in Dublin, retains a habit of pre-occupation with relations between Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland. If those relations were all that was involved he might well be right in his view that a little hypocrisy does no harm and that to protest against it is "brave but irrelevant." Unfortunately it is not the case—the hypocrisy lies in the claim to a United Ireland, the effects within Northern Ireland of that claim have to be considered.

These effects on the relations between the communities in Northern Ireland are believed to be wholly harmful. First, they encourage the representatives of the minority in the belief that by running down to Dublin they can somehow redress their minority status within Northern Ireland. Secondly, the very fact that minority representatives act in that way increases and hardens the distrust which the anti-minority majority has traditionally felt towards the minority, and which the majority community it strengthens the hard-liners, who have always been against any form of power-sharing, as against the quite numerous moderates who would like to see a steady improvement in relations between the majority and minority within Northern Ireland.

I believe that these effects are wholly evil and that therefore the claim to unity—even the soft-line "unity someday" of Mr Lynch—is wrong. It is because it is contrary to the genuine interests of all the people of these islands. If hypocrisy does any good—as it certainly does, for example, in the normal politenesses of our daily lives—I am not so sure that it is wrong in principle, but if it is doing harm I think it is a duty to expose it relentlessly.

The storm of controversy which followed in the Republic on my speech at Oxford is evidence of the lack of a full, informed public consciousness or semi-consciousness that something is wrong. The unity marchants now tend to be on the defensive. That is healthy.

That is the main point I wish to make, but there are some minor aspects of the controversy on which it seems appropriate also to comment here.

Mr John Arden (September 27) says that as a Government Minister I was guilty of "repression." "Repression," he declares, is "repression." The formula enables him to lump the governments of South Africa and the Soviet Union together with the government recently replaced by democratic process in the Republic of Ireland.

Apparently Mr Arden, I do not regard repression as necessarily evil. There are some things which should be repressed; these include political violence, armed conspiracy and increment in aid of these activities. The measures taken by the late Irish Government towards these particular repressive ends were not in fact draconian and any future historians of the period, looking into the Irish newspapers, will find that they daily lambasted our government with as much enthusiasm as any libertarian could desire.

The broadcasters were not gagged either—though I did keep off the air the spokesman for Provisional Sinn Féin, which is an organization which exists only in order to support the Provisional IRA in all its activities including murder, maiming and armed robbery. I am not suggesting that Mr Arden and people like him have any sympathy with these activities. But neither am I going to refrain from alluding to them, because libertarians of Mr Arden's stamp find them irrelevant to the one grand question of "repression is repression is repression."

Finally, while I am grateful to Mr Bernard Levin for the warmth of his approval, I could wish that he had expressed it in another way. It is embarrassing for any man to find praise for himself combined with what appear to be racial insults directed at the people to which he belongs. Mr Arden intended that Mr Levin seriously intended any racial insults. He was writing in a vein of humourous, truculent hyperbole, which is in itself rather Irish, but unfortunately the history of relations between our two countries is such that such language crosses the channel, the humorous overtones in it fade out.

To both Mr Levin and Mr Arden I would protest, in the words of the French classic, that I deserve: *Ni respect, ni honneur ni censure*. Yours sincerely,
CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN,
Seened Eirann
Belle Atha Cluich,
Dublin,
September 29.

Profitable lessons

From Lord Baker: FRs

Sir, I am surprised that the Reverend Mr L. Bogle (September 30), who was once a pupil of mine in the Cambridge University Engineering Department and is the son of a distinguished engineer, has difficulty in differentiating between creating wealth and making money.

It is not aware that engineers, and others, by their designs or inventions create wealth in the form of new firms or industries which provide employment for those who would otherwise lack work, goods for export which help to pay for some of our food, of which, no doubt, Mr Bogle consumes his share, and any taxes on which our welfare services depend. Unfortunately the designer, in spite of the immense effort involved in successful innovation, often does not make money for a great deal—and so he starves.

There are ways of making money without creating wealth but the Headmaster of Westminster School in his most important address to the Headmasters' Conference (September 22) was not concerned with these.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BAKER,
100 Long Road,
Cambridge.

Productivity of British industry

From Professor D. A. Bell

Sir, Both Mr Rees-Mogg (September 28) and Mr Stutchbury (September 30) overlook the point that not all the population is employed in industry, and this is important for two reasons.

Firstly, if we take the overall figure of gross domestic product per capita the difference between Britain and other countries such as Holland, France, Germany, etc. becomes less than two to one (though still too great). To increase our overall production to the level achieved by advanced countries would both require an increase in productivity in industry and increase total employment.

Secondly, since progress is so uneven as between different sectors of industry, most of the benefit of increased productivity should be passed on to the community at large in the form of reduced prices, instead of being given as an increase in wages to the localised group of workers involved. Only in this way will it be possible for labour to lower real wages in productive industry to be absorbed in service industries.

Finally, we cannot in the long run expect to export our unemployment in the form of a favourable balance of trade. The historical trend to a gradual shortening of the working week must continue. There will then be the problems associated with unaccustomed leisure, but that is another story.

Yours faithfully,
D. A. BELL,
87 East End,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
North Humberstone.

From Mr C. J. Fell

Sir, In all discussions of productivity increases it is assumed that they benefit the participants, investors and/or work force. Unfortunately this assumption is not always correct.

During the period 1964 to 1976 the total sum paid by the Department of Health and Social Security to retail chemists in England and Wales for dispensing NHS prescriptions has risen from £34m to £116m (342 per cent). During this period the number of prescriptions dispensed has risen from 209m to 315m (50.5 per cent) and the net cost of drugs used, the relevant measure of inflation, has risen 345 per cent. In the same period the general index of prices measured by the Retail Price Index rose 282 per cent.

After deflating current money rewards by the relevant rate of inflation the real earnings of dispensing pharmacists in 1976 were 99.1 per cent of what they were in 1964, and the real earnings of the general economy had reached 134 per cent of the 1964 level by 1976. In terms of real earnings per unit of output these in 1976 were for NHS dispensing 65.8 per cent of the 1964 amount and in the general economy 106.7 per cent (productivity in the general economy in 1976 was 125.9 per cent of the 1964 figure).

As an inevitable economic response to this massive fall in relative real earnings the number of pharmacies has fallen by over 25 per cent in the period. The result is that productivity in 1976 was consequently 197 per cent of the 1964 figure but even so the growth in real earnings per pharmacy was still, at 129 per cent,

Repairing gas appliances

From the Chairman of North Thames Gas

Sir, Once again Bernard Levin has written about North Thames Gas (September 28) and made no attempt to check any fact or circumstance with us. The facts he states are true, but one of our customers are most inaccurate.

The brief position is that the water heater concerned ceased manufacture 11 years ago. There is no record of regular servicing of it. Some parts of it can be difficult to obtain quickly. In June it developed one fault and this was correctly repaired and the appliance left in working order early in July. It developed another fault which was reported on August 9. That fault also is now corrected.

All the staff concerned in dealing with the customer go to her every courtesy, consideration and attention. The customer was not always in when we called to service her appliance, and that included a Saturday call.

We make millions of calls on customers' gas fires and virtually all result in good service on the first call. With a multitude of domestic appliances in use, all varying ages and model types, and with a requirement for hundreds of thousands of different parts, it is an impossibility to make every appliance work on the first call. There are frequent occasions when the customer has not reported accurately on the fault.

We are most sorry when we cannot give good service quickly. We are also sorry when any cus-

over 5 per cent lower than the average figure for earnings as a whole. In this case the missing reward to labour cannot be accounted for by rewards to capital since the figures quoted embrace the combined reward to labour and capital.

Yours sincerely,
C. J. FELL,
Crown House,
Newport,
Essex.

From Mr D. E. Jordan

Sir, Mr Rees-Mogg's excellent article exhorts us to emulate the Dutch and our problems will be over, and yet in today's edition (September 30) Peter Norman reports on rising unemployment in Holland and a growing economic crisis there. How can this be?

Mr Stutchbury in his letter today has the answer. There is not nearly enough hard work to be done in this automated age. How right. We must indeed either share out what work has to be done, or absorb what will surely be a rising number of jobless in some form of public works. Perhaps we should build some pyramids. They would make more pleasing monuments of our age than derelict factories.

Yours faithfully,
D. E. JORDAN,
Fool Farm,
Newcastle Emlyn,
Dyfed.

From Mr Duncan J. Woolard

Sir, Britain can produce: I was employed by a multinational with instructions to increase production, reduce the backlog, keep delivery promises, etc. etc.

I cut the number of all employees by 50 per cent, closed down the closed shop and doubled the output per employee to maintain production levels. The result was soaring profits.

Ultimately it became necessary to restructure the company as a subsidiary of a new Dutch holding company to avoid excessive tax in this country, resulting in my redundancy. We can't win—The Dutch can't lose. Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN J. WOOLARD,
23 The Middlings,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.

From Mr Winston Fletcher

Sir, On the second subject of overmanning and productivity I thought that you would wish to have recorded for posterity the following conversation which occurred yesterday evening on a train from Paddington.

Guard to barperson: Today's serving toast, on the other train.

Barperson: Toast? On his own? I'll have the union on him.

Guard (apparently taken back by the vehemence of the barperson's reply): Well his customers seem to like it.

Barperson: Pleading customers is all very well, but you can go too far. Making toast's a two man job. Only the reprobate toastmaker's name has been changed, in the probably forlorn hope that it may still be possible to protect him.

Yours faithfully,
WINSTON FLETCHER,
Southern Mill,
Bicester,
Oxfordshire,
September 30.

customer feels frustrated with service and feels they must write to a newspaper. It does not result in quicker attention because in all cases we are trying to get things right for the customer well before they write to a newspaper (as in the case of this customer).

I must stress how important it is for domestic gas appliances to be safe, reliable and efficient. It helps the operating efficiency of the appliance, potential problems are identified at an early stage, and there is naturally an important safety factor in seeing that an appliance is in good working order.

We regret that over the years Mr Levin has never accepted our invitations to come and see the complex operation involved in giving good service to customers, and what happens when even the tiniest screw is required for a product. We repeat that invitation as a challenge to him to come and see our first class, operations and understand the perspective of the problem.

We try very hard. We are wrong sometimes. We are sorry and we do try to improve things. We will take note of any constructive suggestions which Mr Levin or his colleagues may make when they have visited us and examined our systems.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GADD,
Chairman,
North Thames Gas,
Lorham Road,
Barnet,
Middlesex,
September 30.

Recognizing the Vatican

From the Editor of Law and Justice

Sir, In doing the Bull *Regnum in Excelis* (1570) of Pius V as an obstacle to full diplomatic relations, The Warden of Laumer House (September 28) raises a delightful red herring, but it is based upon the same lack of historical consciousness as was lacking in those conservatives at Vatican II who were against the concepts eventually adopted in the Declaration on Religious Freedom (*Dignitatis Humanae Personae*).

The Bull of Pius V was in the abbey of medieval notions of government of a theocratic nature—the "descending theme of government" to use the phrase of Walter Ullmann—which had probably reached their highest mark with the Bull *Unan Sanctum* (1505) of Boniface VIII who argued that the pope was the head of the Church, the "anointed of kings" at the nod and sufferance of the priest.

Idea slowly change over the years with the tide of development of doctrine, and at Vatican II all the earlier notions that the authority

of ruler/governments existed only by delegation from the spiritual power—as represented by the Pope—were abandoned. The principal document containing the new attitudes is that Declaration on Religious Freedom, but there is also in the Dogmatic Constitution of the Church (*Lumen Gentium*) a clear statement, "it must be recognized that the temporal sphere is governed by its own principles, since it is properly concerned with the interests of this world" (p. 63—*The Documents of Vatican II*—Abbott).

The periodical spring cleaning by the Law Commission of the statute book is a regular reminder of the existence of large numbers of obsolete laws, but surely, Sir, we do not allow their existence to affect our daily lives or conduct. No more should we I suggest, allow that 407-year-old Bull to be an obstacle to a solution of today's problems.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PENTY,
Editor, *Law and Justice*,
51 High Street,
Hampton,
Middlesex,
September 30.

Developing the neutron bomb

From Mrs Robin Baring

Sir, I feel very strongly that the time has come to challenge the values upon which our civilization rests and upon which it bases its political life and the decisions it makes for its preservation.

We consider ourselves in the West to be a Christian civilization, yet Christianity has been unable to help us to see our own dark shadow. To call ourselves Christian is the grossest hypocrisy.

We are prepared to encourage the invention and development of weapons like the neutron bomb which can only be described as demonic. We see nothing wrong in using the creative genius of man for such destructive purposes as the annihilation of his own kind. We justify the unimaginable suffering caused by these weapons, saying, as we have always said in the past, that whatever action we taken to defend ourselves now we project by the necessity to destroy the enemy before he destroys us.

How has it come about that such an abyss divides thinking and feeling? How can scientists invent and people envisage using such weapons without experiencing any feelings of guilt and horror?

What justification can there be for the invention and proposed use of these weapons, no matter how deadly the enemy or how great the threat of extinction? Surely the real enemy which we project with such unconsciousness onto nation, class or race, is our own unrecognized barbarism, our capacity to destroy other human beings with equanimity as long as they are the enemy.

There is a terrible danger in allowing ourselves to be propelled unconsciously ever further along the path of unrestrained and unacknowledged barbarism. The individual must challenge the values of the mass or he will be responsible for atrocities more terrible than those of Hitler's Germany.

Our civilization rests upon the appalling assumption that the end justifies the means which has infiltrated every aspect of our political, economic and social life. Our chief characteristic is as an insatiable will to power. The result is the atrophy of our capacity to feel and the loss of human values.

It is still not too late to acknowledge our guilt and to call a halt to our descent towards a moral degeneration of catastrophic proportions.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE BARING,
White Lodge,
Grange Park,
Aldershot,
Hampshire,
September 30.

Firework injuries

From the President of the Firework Makers' Guild

Sir, You published yesterday (September 28) a series of assertions by Mr Noel Tobin about firework accidents in England and Wales. The implication that official government figures on this subject were wrong. They were, moreover, substantially a repetition of details which he originally released at the beginning of this year. They deserve no more credence now than they did then. I say this in the knowledge that investigations made by the Firework Makers' Guild itself, and expert statistical advice which it has had from an impeccable authority, both show that the research methods and findings of the Campaign for Firework Reform are suspect and unreliable.

For example, in its statement last January the Campaign asserted that it had received information from 262 general practitioners who treated firework casualties in 25 areas in England and Wales. A member of our Guild tested Folkestone as one of the towns named in the survey. He wrote to, and received replies from, all the 24 doctors listed there. The Campaign indicated that the Folkestone doctors treated 18 injuries, yet when these doctors were questioned 23 of them said that they had not treated a single casualty, and the twenty-four reported a solitary minor accident. Furthermore, in regard to the whole of England and Wales the Campaign reported that 326 families received 1,347 injuries—thus achieving the highly suspect ratio of four injuries per family.

This is bad enough. But the same member of our Guild went on to seek to impugn the accuracy of Norman Webb, managing director of Gallup. Mr Webb's report indicated many reservations about the evidence available from the Campaign, and reached the broad conclusion that the method used to obtain the data was inherently unreliable and that no confidence could be expressed in the information provided.

I think you will agree, Sir, that this justifies our misgivings about the trustworthiness of the NCFR's "statistics" and our disquiet at the uncritical publicity which Mr Tobin has hitherto had for his statements. I hope that in future those to whom he communicates them, and who read or hear them, will treat them with proper wariness.

Yours faithfully,
DERRICK C. WORTHINGTON,
President,
Firework Makers' Guild,
Arlon House,
Salisbury Road,
Leicester,
September 29.

Reading habits of children

From Mrs R. M. F. Moss

Sir, One should surely not only expect but hope that a child of 14 would read fewer books than one of 10. It takes longer to read a book by Dickens than it does one by Enid Blyton. Beyond a certain age, say 11 or 12, it must be nonsense to judge reading enthusiasm merely by the number of books read.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET MOSS,
Holmshurst,
Westerton Drive,
Bridge of Allan,
Stirling,
September 29.

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning the price of only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA AND BALLET

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THE ARTS

Philharmonia/Giulini
Festival Hall

Paul Griffiths

The Philharmonia Orchestra, appearing as such for the first time on the South Bank on Sunday, were set to make their debut on an occasion of both family pride and celebratory glory. They began by showing off four of their principals in Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* for oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon and orchestra, though the limelight fell unevenly.

John McCaw made much of the clarinet's opportunities to sing, particularly in the slow movement, and the horn-player Michael Thompson turned up now and then with a pleasant phrase. The others were perched over the dominant conducting of Carlo Maria Giulini, who steered the work, gently but firmly, more in the direction of symphony than of concerto.

Mr. Giulini's symphonic sense was again apparent, and at once, in the ensuing performance of Beethoven's Ninth. No lack of definition was there in these opening downward leaps, nor any feeling that the first movement's grand design was not unfolding exactly as it should. In fact, however, the matter was not quite as sure as it seemed. There were difficult-

Jorge Bolet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Max Harrison

To say that Jorge Bolet's performance of the *Appassionata* Sonata on Sunday afternoon was not that of the usual sort of Beethoven specialist is, at least from where I am standing, quite a compliment.

The first movement, for the most part, was dry, crisp and sounded like a distillation of a number of possible earlier, more sensational readings. The central variation movement was a number of possible earlier, more sensational readings. The central variation movement was a number of possible earlier, more sensational readings.

Now the Arts Council of Great Britain has organized an exhibition of recent and some older work by Matta at the Hayward Gallery. It is a revelation. Several of the paintings are on a colossal scale (one had to be left out at the last minute because there was not room to hang it). The imagery, drawn from both the human body and modern technology, is deployed with an extraordinary ability to combine visual leaps and connections.

Matta's imagery derives in part from Duchamp's paintings of the period of *Le Passage de la Vierge à la Mariée*. Duchamp has very often been a stimulating influence on other artists, and his own work is often cerebral and arid. But Matta, in expanding and enlivening the imagery of Duchamp, has found energetic formal equivalents for the tensions and conflicts of modern life: earth/space, body/machine, sex/war, reflection/action.

The exhibition is entitled *Coligium*, which is also the title of one of the largest recent canvases, over 10 metres long by four high. It is



Coligium, the largest canvas in the exhibition

Colossal: the paintings of Matta

The work of the Chilean artist Roberto Matta appears in all the standard histories of surrealism; yet very little of it has been seen in Britain. For several years Matta has been living for part of the year in London although his presence here has gone almost unannounced and unnoticed.

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Matta's imagery derives in part from Duchamp's paintings of the period of *Le Passage de la Vierge à la Mariée*. Duchamp has very often been a stimulating influence on other artists, and his own work is often cerebral and arid. But Matta, in expanding and enlivening the imagery of Duchamp, has found energetic formal equivalents for the tensions and conflicts of modern life: earth/space, body/machine, sex/war, reflection/action.

The exhibition is entitled *Coligium*, which is also the title of one of the largest recent canvases, over 10 metres long by four high. It is

a vast almost abstract allegory of sex, violence, space and technology. In an interview with Peter de Francia, printed in the catalogue Matta says: "The earth is caged in a fantastic technology. One can see now that what happened on the seas of the earth in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is going on now in space". But Matta's huge paintings are not just science-fiction fantasies. Images of space and technology are used as grand analogies of the human predicament, just as the sea and ships were used by the masters of past time.

Matta believes that Africa

How many medical graduates is enough?

Lord Melskett's emphasis is on change "through evolution, not revolution". Getting reorganization right, he says, is more important than doing it quickly. No time limit has been set for reorganization, and some of those who oppose its introduction are no doubt waiting for a change in government at Westminster. The system of selection is being abolished this year, but is being replaced by another system of selection, teachers' assessment. In the meantime, the Government has set up three working parties, including one on the working of the system of selection, to look at the many implications of comprehensive reorganization.

Education Correspondent

	Replacement poets (new to practice and replacements)	Newly- created poets	Total	Poets lost to immigrants
General practitioner poets	1,150	220	1,370	890 = 65%
Hospital consultant poets	340	360	700	180 = 26%
Total	1,490	580	2,070	670 = 32%

* Figures available for 1974 only

In each of these years it can be seen that about 1,000 United Kingdom medical graduates obtained a post in general practice. Since it takes about five years to train a general practitioner, these doctors qualified in 1968-1971, when about 2,130 new medical graduates were produced by British medical schools. This means that 47 per cent of each year's home-produced doctors for other posts. Some have entered the hospital service in the expectation of obtaining a consultant post which will take them about 10 years to reach. In 1983, at present, there is a shortage of training posts and many are filled by foreign graduates, but unless there is the likelihood of a permanent post at the end of their training, they are unlikely to stay in it. If there continue to be 100 consultants posts available each year, and over half of these are newly created posts improving the service, this will suggest that the number of graduates since there are many posts outside the NHS in industry, the army and the universities to employ the other 415. But this depends on the posts being

There are many arguments either for an increase in the number of United Kingdom-trained doctors or for a decrease, but the demand for doctors is one of the numbers of doctors needed by a community. In this country we have had three major reports on this problem; in 1944 the Goodenough Committee recommended that more doctors be trained, and each of the three subsequent reports of highly qualified physicians to United Kingdom graduates in the 1950s—that very large numbers were responsible to emigrate to find responsible work. In 1957 the Wyllike Committee came to the opposite conclusion, that the country had led to a current shortfall in hospital staff. The Todd Commission in 1968 repeated the Goodenough Committee's advice, but since it takes 10 to 15 years for changes in medical school intake to affect the number of doctors, the problems are only now starting to appear.

Whether the young doctors are going to be able to make a living is another question. The disappearance of indigenous doctors, the extra 550 posts created each year means that the NHS is expanding every year; will it continue to do so? But there is another complication. As a result of the Todman Commission's advice the medical profession has been steadily rising in 1976 there were 2,750 new medical graduates and the target medical student intake for 1980 is 4,000. It is at 4,000 quality in 1985, and the failure rates are lower than ever before, there will be a dramatic change in job opportunities for doctors. There are 3,100 new registration house posts in the United Kingdom, posts for every newly qualified senior must hold for one year by 1980 before he or she can be fully registered and practise in the clinic outside a hospital. There will be a shortage of posts for qualification, a short term problem. But those who qualify in 1985 will be looking for general practitioner posts in 1990, and if there are only 1,570 posts then 2,630 doctors will be considering entering a hospital service which might have a 10% vacancy rate. The need for them in 1997? What about other 1997 in the 21st

One possibility of salvaging the situation is that the profession exists but it is a highly undesirable one. Until 1960 there were 100 medical graduates each year in the United States. By 1970 the number had steadily risen so that in 1970 there were 131 per cent. The medical school intake now consists of equal numbers of men and women. At present 30 per cent of the applicants to general practitioners' posts are women, but very few women become hospital consultants. For various reasons, family commitments and job design may mean that never as many women as men will take the potentially full-time post. It may well be that of the 2,000 expected medical graduates who are women few will occupy the permanent careers

There will deprive the man of his posts and so aggravate the employment problem for men. There are three solutions to the problem. Should our economy boom or should it continue to stagnate? The first is to improve the medical care and private medicine then more doctors could be employed, but it must not be forgotten that the cost of an extra doctor is not just his or her salary but also a far greater cost in the supporting staff and personnel that are needed to allow the medical work to be done. If the population rises, more doctors will be needed. The current forecasts of a second solution is to redesign the staffing structure of the health service so that there are more permanent posts and less pressing thing of all is to discontinue temporary training posts and the remainder hold permanent posts; this ratio needs to be altered so that there are more permanent training posts and this change means that there must be a dramatic alteration in the style of work of most doctors and this change may be difficult for a profession used to the three solutions to be adopted. The third solution is to establish a step now advanced by most medical institutions but this is not accepted by the Department of Health and Social Security. Unless one is a member of the barman's club, only the brightest star-former and the most extraordinary would be attracted to undertake the long arduous and doubtful career.

Dr Alan B. Shrank
The author is Deputy President
Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association.

"The enemy", said John Roe, headmaster of Westminster School at the recent Heart March Conference. "It is the humanism, pure rather than applied, learning for its own sake, rather than for a purpose, remote academe, where government did not dictate or economic necessities intrude, above all where the individual was regarded as some national purpose but had intrinsic self justifying merits . . . when the world power (Britain) reverted to its former status of trading state, these attitudes became

Oh dear! We can most of us think of many worse enemies. There will always be place for a small group of first class minds, independent of national or political pressures, striving to free themselves from prejudice and concerned with Truth rather than Expedience. Nevertheless I agree with John Rae that these must be few in number; the trading state required wealth producers, businessmen, technologists, doctors, not abstract thinkers; every generation, on every subject, needs a few first class minds.

I disagree, however, with this suggested cure. He believes that schools should accept increased powers of direction from the Secretary of State. No, Dr. Raa, we fault their powers, not the schools. You are putting the cart before the horse. We know that new studies form connections in business, industry, industrial relations, creative, inventivity and technology are due. We know that modern languages must be taught in conjunction with study of the institutions and men-

graphy and business and industry of a country. We know that the two culture divisions must end, and that five subjects, not three, should be studied after "O" level. The reign of literature doctors and engineers and unpractical and uncreative artists must come to an end, and we have a hundred suggestions as to how to do this, and how to restore the creative arts and crafts to a respectable place alongside academic skills. But the schools are powerless and so is the Secretary of State; even the examination boards, which

could certainly help by moving a little more swiftly, are not the people who can do anything radical to alter things.

For years the politicians have avoided facing the need for real educational revolution by concentrating on social and political tinkering with the system. The only thing for anyone but the state to do is to try to make anything but the state itself create unhappiness in the teaching world, please a few political theorists, lead to a useless overproduction of sociologists, crawling like maggots over the decaying corpse of our national institutions, and contribute to the increase by

First, the universities must lead the change; second, the rewards offered by engineers and industrial managers must be seen to equal those for instance, offered to the top government bureaucrats.

It is the universities which govern the school curriculum

Is there any formula that gives the number of doctors that a country requires? Is there a country that has a career ladder for all its citizens? Each turns the question over to the other. What sort of doctors are meant? Is the country rich or poor? Is its health services state-run, in private hands, or a mixture of the two? Is the country a unit or is it a mixed system? What is the proper medical care appropriate to the country? How many citizens does the country have and what is their expected number in the future? Is the country rich or poor? There are many variables that there can be no definite answers to these questions; this is why three learned committees on separate occasions have produced different answers. The need is to proceed to be wrong. The statistic giving the most recent data has been the predicted population of this country, which has defied accurate forecasting each time. What other way is there of assessing the need for medical manpower? The only satisfactory way? Unfortunately in the United Kingdom both the number of medical graduates and the number of posts in the NHS can be controlled directly or indirectly by government, and the number of doctors in longer service. Furthermore, because of the long delay between a medical student entering medical school and seeking his or her first post, as much as 15 or 20 years for some countries, a forecast of the number of important posts in a proper career structure must be available and adaptable.

In 1975 in Britain we had 91,600 qualified doctors. Sixteen per cent were retired, so there was one working doctor for every 712 people. The vast majority work in the hospital service and a third are in general practice, a ratio that reflects the style of medicine practised in this country; the rest are employed in the army, industry and the universities.

One might think that providing medical care according to a country's needs should be related to medical need, but this concept is really an abstract one, very difficult to quantify let alone define. The usual factor that determines the quality of medical care is money itself, determined by the cost of medical care. There is almost no limit to the possibilities with private medical care, but state-controlled health services are limited by the amount of money, which usually means that the amount of money spent on health is the smallest amount of the gross national product that the electorate will tolerate.

Entry to the medical profession is regulated at medical school places, and the attractiveness of a medical career to sixth form students. University councils, prompted by government guidance, decide the number of places at medical schools. There has never been a shortage of suitable entrants, because medicine has always been an attractive career with its intense human interest, the drama of acute illness, the intellectual stimulation and challenges and its universality with the expectation that a job could be found anywhere in the world. Although there are restrictions of entry to certain countries, the recent EEC directive on the free movement of doctors in Europe underlining this freedom. If the career prospects, both in number and quality, were limited and this were known, would this deter entrants? If it did not, then there would be 10 to 15 years in which to expand and alter the staffing structure of the health service in order to cope with a surplus of doctors. If it did act as a deterrent, then there would be the same time interval in which to organize a similar contraction of the service.



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the universities lay down for entry. Theoretically two, and, in practice, normally three highly specialized "A" levels. In the case of medicine and many scientific and engineering courses, these are laid down in such a way as to virtually prevent any other post. "O" level studies, except for the outstandingly brilliant. Dr Richard Borgeart, the former assistant director-general of UNESCO said on Friday that the universities should provide more courses in the plastic and performing arts. The universities do not consider them academically respectable because they do not involve the exclusive use of books. At last year's Roundmasters Conference I asked the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge whether English and modern languages courses at that great university could consider offering such opportunities. He said that a medium of unrelieved and constant critical analysis (to offend, for example, opera, acting, film studies, sculpture or creative writing) in conjunction with the "O" level reply was "impossible." If you want the sort of thing there are other places to which you should send your students." Quite so, Madam; we are beginning to realize it. The inevitable reaction of most universities to the new curriculum change to enable boys and girls to study more broadly in the sixth forms or at university, is one of fear: fear of dropping standards, fear of becoming indistinguishable from polytechnics, the fear of new universities, and, in the course of their criticism,

at a time of financial cutbacks. Above all, they are so hamstrung by their own over democratic-bureaucratic constitution that change is hardly possible. It may even be inevitable, which means that it is impossible.

If the universities do not change by offering some outlet to the doers as well as to the abstract thinkers, if they do not encourage applications from students with a broader band of post-graduate level studies, if they do not relax their entrance requirements, and develop more inter-disciplinary courses, then they will be overtaken by the polytechnics and will struggle with all significant school reformers.

As lifelong supporters of Oxbridge, many of my colleagues would not see the fact that many of the newer universities and the polytechnics are overcoming the no longer logical prejudice of parents and as a result attracting the more able and active minded students that we desire. For they are rediscovering the truth known to the Renaissance: that the highest function of intelligence is man's free creation and activity, not criticism.

As for the rewards offered by engineering and industrial management, you cannot blame the doers for seeking them, for they are far smaller than those offered by other countries. Able engineers often return to schools telling stories of disillusionment — no promotion on ability, penalization for management, and no recognition for the difficulties of industry — those who carry disproportionate responsibility for negligible reward.

If pressure groups are to be formed for the reformation of our education, it is quite clear that where they should be directed. Universities must not remain so exclusively institutions for the promotion of placid, low academics, but places where men and women are indeed seeking for truth, but cannot at the same time develop creative intelligence in a way which is balanced and practical.

Logie Bruce Lockhart
The author is Headmaster of Gresham School.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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John Foord
PLANT AND
MACHINERY
VALUERS

Whitehall expects new investment of over £6,250m or next year

By Our Correspondent
The manufacturing industry this year will be about 7 per cent higher than last year. This is the first time since the previous estimates made by the department. The previous survey which was conducted in April and May indicated a rise in spending this year of between 6 and 10 per cent. However, the relatively depressed level of spending in the first half of the year and an expected rise of 9 per cent in the second six months compared with the first has caused the statisticians to revise their projections for the year as a whole to the lower end of their earlier estimates. The latest survey is based on replies from companies covered by the panel received between July and the middle of last month. Within the manufacturing sector, only the food, drink and tobacco sector and rest of other manufacturing groups are likely to show increases in investment this year substantially above those for manufacturing industry as a whole. Contrary to the predictions made a year ago—which forecasted a particularly sharp rise by metal manufacturing industry—the latest survey noted that a “significant fall” was expected in that sector. This is largely the result of the cuts in investment being implemented by the British Steel Corporation. The BSC is facing huge losses and may be forced to abandon some of the larger projects incorporated in its 10-year development plan. The latest evidence suggests that spending this year may be closer to 5 per cent, however, amounting to £2,070m in constant (1970) prices with an outturn level for manufacturing this year of £1,770m in constant prices.

Car buyers give boost to advance in credit sales

By Our Economic Staff
A sharp increase in lending to car buyers led to a big rise in new credit extended by finance houses in August. The increase, of £38m to £201m, was part of a general advance in credit sales in August which could mark the beginning of some slight recovery from the depressed levels of earlier this year. Total new credit extended in August rose to £417m, with retailers' credit going up to £216m from £200m. There was also an increase in the value of retailers' credit. Taking the 1966 figure as 100, the August weekly average was 318 compared with 295 in July. All this increase occurred in the general stores sector, which excludes both consumer durable shops and department stores. The August figures came after a period in which retailers' credit had advanced and finance house business had lagged; the effect is to leave a bottoming out of sectors running at a level 7 per cent higher in the three months to August than in the previous three months. Recovery in all forms of credit retail sales may reflect a bottoming out of sectors, combined with a slight improvement in disposable incomes which is making people more prepared to buy. The Government hopes that consumption will from now on provide a significant driving force for growth. But the August figures themselves will have only a limited impact on British output, since figures already released showed that the car sector, where growth was strongest, was heavily influenced by sales of imports rather than domestic cars. Retail sales: Revised figures for retail sales in August show that the index of volume was slightly higher than first thought, at 107.2 instead of the 107 originally estimated. Clothing and footwear had a particularly good month. There can be no doubt that

Talks with IMF could lead to larger stimulus in April Budget

Mr Healey may ask for more leeway

By David Blake
Mr Healey may ask the International Monetary Fund to relax the lines for next year's Budget in the latter of interest in order to give himself room for a large new stimulus in his April Budget. Such a stimulus, which would be in addition to any November measures would be dependent on earnings increasing at only a moderate rate over the period to the spring. A firm decision on expansion will thus not be taken until next year. However, if the Chancellor is to give himself room for a Budget with significant tax cuts, he will have to find leeway during his talks with the IMF this year. This is because the vague central estimates of £8,600m for Public Sector Borrowing and £6,000m for Domestic Credit Expansion (DCE) will have to be converted into firm figures before the start of 1978. Disagreement on how harmful the rise in interest rates which would be necessary to keep money supply down would be months to April instead of making it conditional on a new round of pay policy.

One is the growing conviction within the Treasury that even a small increase by more than the 10 per cent aimed for under the present round of bargaining there will be no explosion in pay this year. Thus the prospect of a tax-cutting Budget in April becomes a real possibility at least in terms of the pay element in the equation. The other is a growing concern about the problems which might be faced for the Government's monetary targets next year if the economy begins to expand, as Mr Healey hopes it will. There are growing anxieties in the Treasury and the Bank of England about whether it will be as easy to keep money supply in check during a time of recovery as it is during the present recession. Disagreement on how harmful the rise in interest rates which would be necessary to keep money supply down would be months to April instead of making it conditional on a new round of pay policy.

Those who support the retention of firm monetary guidelines, which would obviously be reinforced by maintaining the IMF ceiling on DCE for next year at its proposed level argue that to relax would increase inflation. There is dispute about the effect a tight money policy would have, with some saying that the financial system is such that interest rates could go up without doing great damage to the economy. Others worry whether there will be a harmful effect on investment, on the other hand. The Fund itself might not be opposed to renegotiating the ceilings for 1978-79. Two indications in this direction came in Washington last week, where Dr Witteveen said that countries such as the United Kingdom could contribute more to world economic growth as they moved into payments surplus. There was widespread talk of the need to boost demand through fiscal action in the form of tax cuts rather than through allowing wages to rise.

Merger plan by two big Wall Street brokers

From Frank Vogt
Washington, Oct 3
Two of Wall Street's largest brokerage companies announced today a plan to merge. The Dean Witter Organization, which operates 146 domestic offices and employs 2,200 account executives, has agreed a preliminary agreement with Reynolds Securities Inc., a national office which operates 84 domestic offices and employs 1,350 account executives. The merger is a surprise and undoubtedly will raise new problems from the brokerage community, a chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission concerning the commission's plans to press ahead with eliminating off-board trading rules at the start of the new year. Many small brokerage companies fear they will be unable to compete in the new environment that the SEC appears determined to create. Once trading on the floors of the exchanges becomes less important, as will happen if the SEC's plans are implemented, it is likely that those large brokerage houses with the capital to maintain large inventories of stocks of their own and with large networks of national offices, will dominate the securities business. The need for a strong capital base and a major network of offices, because of the increasing competition was assuredly the prime motive behind the merger announcement. The new company, which is known as the Dean Witter Reynolds Organization and international investment banking operations of the two are to be merged to form a new entity. The merger, which is subject to stockholder approval, will result from the conversion of each share of Reynolds common stock into 0.6 shares of Dean Witter common stock. At August 31, Dean Witter had a net worth of \$100m (revenues of £53m), while at June 30 Reynolds had a net worth of \$62.8m. In its latest financial statement for the year ending August 31, Dean Witter said that its earnings were \$12.5m, or \$2.62 a share, on revenues of \$239.5m. Reynolds announced that for its last full year, ending last December 31, it had earnings of \$8.8m, or \$1.62 a share, on revenues of \$151.5m. The two companies have between them 14 foreign offices, including London. Some brokers and stock exchange directors have suggested that chaos will soon be seen, and the New York Stock Exchange is running a campaign to persuade the SEC to take action on the removal of off-board trading restrictions. Even the largest brokerage companies have sided with the board of the exchange on this issue, although they do not go as far as the exchange's full opposition to innovation. Mr Donald Reagan, chairman of Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner and Smith, the nation's largest brokerage company, issued a statement saying that the existing off-board trading restrictions should be maintained until a consolidated limited order book is in place. This would ensure that all limit orders are entered into a central electronic storage and processing unit, which would allow brokers to determine quickly what the best bids and offers are in the market at any particular time and ensure that these orders are filled in correct sequence, so reducing the disadvantages to the small brokers. However, Mr Reagan added: "We do not believe in the 'doomsday' approach that proclaims imminent chaos or collapse if any restrictions are eased... nor do we believe that any group can be permitted to hold progress hostage unless and until their particular version of a national market is adopted."

Nuclear expert will head oilermaking industry

Roger Vielvoye
Mr Ron Campbell, who has advised the construction of Britain's only two operating advanced gas cooled reactors (AGRs) has been lured away from the state-owned Nuclear Power Corporation to head a restructured oilermaking industry which expects to be leading another generation of reactors. From November 1, Mr Campbell, the assistant managing director of NPC, will become executive director of the new company which will be headed by the oilermaking industry. Mr Campbell, who has been lured away from the state-owned Nuclear Power Corporation to head a restructured oilermaking industry which expects to be leading another generation of reactors. From November 1, Mr Campbell, the assistant managing director of NPC, will become executive director of the new company which will be headed by the oilermaking industry. Mr Campbell, who has been lured away from the state-owned Nuclear Power Corporation to head a restructured oilermaking industry which expects to be leading another generation of reactors. From November 1, Mr Campbell, the assistant managing director of NPC, will become executive director of the new company which will be headed by the oilermaking industry.

Restrictions remain on scrap exports

Failure by the European Commission to agree to terms for a relaxation of controls on exports of scrap to countries outside the Community means that British scrap processors, and their European colleagues, face a further period of continued restrictions. The Department of Industry announced last night that present interim arrangements would remain in force until a firm decision was taken by the Commission, with some change in the terms for the licensing of exports of high-grade scrap. Brokers to step down. Rudolf Wolff & Co, the London commodity brokers, announced last night that Mr Philip Jervois will relinquish the post of deputy chairman on March 31 next.

US puts brake on steel dumping by Tokyo

From Our US Economics Correspondent
Carbon steel plate manufactured in Japan is being dumped in the American market, the United States Treasury announced today. Importers of this product are to be required to post bonds sufficient to cover estimated dumping duties of about 32 per cent on all further carbon steel plate imports. The Treasury also announced that it has not yet reached a final decision on whether to impose duties on Japanese welded stainless steel pipe and tubing is being sold in America at less than fair market value. But it has closed its investigation, for lack of sufficient evidence, into whether grain oriented steel made in Italy is benefiting from special Italian government subsidies. These announcements come at a time when Mr Anthony Solomon, Under-Secretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs, is heading a special task force, announced by President Carter last Thursday, into foreign steel sales in this country. There can be no doubt that the Carter Administration is backing down now from its tough anti-protectionist stand on steel of just a few months ago. It seems probable that the president will order Mr Robert Strauss, head of the Trade Negotiations, to seek "orderly marketing agreements" with Japan and the Community on steel shipments to the United States. The Carter administration is under considerable pressure from the steel companies and from trade unions to impose tough quotas and tariffs on steel imports. The unions are focussing their protectionist efforts on steel and they win on this front, then will seek protection for many other industries. This was made clear in a strongly worded statement issued today by the AFL-CIO, the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. It notes that "the expected \$30,000m (about £17,647m) trade deficit in 1977 sounds a clear warning that, unless immediate governmental steps are taken, we can look forward to the continuing domination of American manufacturers."

Metal Box and power price rises granted

By Patricia Tisdall
Interim price increases have been granted by the Price Commission to two organizations whose notified price rises are among the first to be investigated under the new price control legislation. Metal Box was told yesterday that it could put up the prices of its processed food, beverage and aerosol cans by an average of 9.81 per cent with immediate effect. The company's pre-notified price increase application for an average of 10.5 per cent. The Electricity Council has been given the full 1 per cent increase it sought to make adjustments for fuel cost increases. In theory, investigation by the Price Commission should result in the applicant's price increase being frozen for the three month period of inquiry. However, safeguard clauses laid down in the Price Commission Act compel the Commission to allow interim increases if an organization can prove that its profits and trading margins do not reach certain minimum levels. Metal Box and the Electricity Council are the first to invoke the safeguards which operate on an arithmetic basis. Their experiences will doubtless be regarded as test cases by future applicants. A third organization, Barclays Bank, whose application for price increases is also being investigated by the Commission, has not asked for an interim increase. But Fisons, the latest firm to have its price increase application investigated, is giving "serious consideration" to asking for an interim rise. Announcing the increases yesterday, the Price Commission said it was obliged to allow interim increases to the extent to which the safeguard regulations operate. The decision as far as the Electricity Council is concerned results from an estimate of the operations of the safeguard regulations in respect of the Area Electricity Boards of England and Wales. For Metal Box the increase also results from a calculation of the operation of the safeguard regulations, although here the Commission did indicate when announcing its investigation that interim rises would be granted to take account of the cost of raw materials, especially tinplate.

Oil falls after early gains

David Mott
Crude oil prices fell after an early rise in the London stock market yesterday. The slump was most pronounced in oil futures, which were down 2.5p to 20.50p. Oil prices fell after an early rise in the London stock market yesterday. The slump was most pronounced in oil futures, which were down 2.5p to 20.50p. Oil prices fell after an early rise in the London stock market yesterday. The slump was most pronounced in oil futures, which were down 2.5p to 20.50p.

Move by Fed signals rise in interest rates

From Our US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Oct 3
The Federal Reserve Board appears to have signalled its intention to raise interest rates in the money markets clearly indicate that the Fed is prepared to allow short-term interest rates to rise yet again. Its market actions last week suggested it wanted to see the rate for federal funds—the key rate influencing all other short-term rates—held at around 6 1/2 per cent, but late on Friday and again today the Fed permitted the rate to rise to 6 3/4 per cent. There is now uncertainty as to the Fed's intentions. It appears that the Fed is setting a target of around 6 1/2 per cent and should this level prevail in the next couple of days, most other short-term rates, including the commercial bank prime lending rate, will almost certainly rise.

Choser economic links sought by Mr Fukuda

Tokyo, Oct 3—Mr Takeo Fukuda, the Prime Minister, today stressed the need for North America, West Europe and Japan to cooperate more closely than ever to settle world economic problems. In his policy speech delivered to the Diet, the Prime Minister said that the biggest task the world faces today was to rebuild and stabilize the global economy, which had yet to recover from the shock of the 1973 oil crisis. The current world economic situation warranted no optimism either from industrialized countries or developing countries. He expressed the fear that if the current situation continued, the economic difficulties might develop into political chaos, and jeopardize the stability and peace of the world. "Now is the time for the countries of the world to learn the lesson of the past and cooperate to avoid catastrophe," he said.

Lockheed repays last of \$250m federal loan

Washington, Oct 3—Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, which was only saved from bankruptcy in 1971 by a unique loan from the American Federal Government, has now returned to financial health. The company is about to repay the loan in full. Lockheed owed the Government almost \$250m (about £143m), but has now convinced its commercial bankers to extend sufficient credit for it to pay off the remaining \$60m debt. Senator William Proxmire, chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, said today that Mr Robert Haack, who has just given up the chairmanship of Lockheed, "must have worked miracles to turn Lockheed around." The guaranteed portion of Lockheed's loans should have been paid off in 1974, but continuing problems at the company resulted in the repayments being delayed three times. Senator Proxmire and many

21 more concrete price-fixing pacts on record

By John Huxley
A further 21 price-fixing agreements in the ready-mixed concrete industry have been placed on the register of restrictive practices by the Office of Fair Trading. This brings the number of agreements in the industry registered so far to 49. Mr Gordon Borrie, the Director-General of Fair Trading, has already said that he would take all such cases to the Restrictive Practices Court, which will be asked to make an order stopping the companies involved giving effect to the alleged agreements. The OFT is also believed to be considering an application for orders which, if granted, would prevent companies already named as operating agreements relating to ready-mixed concrete from becoming involved in similar arrangements covering the supply of other building materials. The agreements referred to in the register yesterday were: West London: Hemel Hempstead; Peterborough; Cambridge; Bracknell; Harrogate; Yeovil-Sherborne; Bath; Taunton; Minehead-Watchet; Weston-super-Mare; Burnham-on-Sea; Cheddar; Bridgewater; Glastonbury-Somerton; Clippertonham; Dorchester-Weymouth; Ringwood-Fordingbridge; Salisbury; Gosport - Fareham - Hambly; Southampton-Winchester - Eastleigh; Havering; Hayling Island; and Bournemouth-Poole-Wimborne-Minster.

International advisory team for Pan Am

By Arthur Reed
Pan American World Airways are to establish an international advisory board, composed of 13 leaders of industry, finance, learning or the professions in the United States, to advise the airline on issues affecting its business. Announcing this in London yesterday, Mr William Seawell, chairman and chief executive officer of Pan Am, said that the board would meet twice a year under the chairmanship of Mr Sol M. Linowitz, lawyer, former chairman of the Xerox Corporation, and co-negotiator, with the standing of ambassador, of the Panama Canal treaty. Mr Seawell said that the board was designed to broaden the resources of expertise available to Pan Am in reaching policy decisions on issues confronting the airline in its worldwide operations as a privately-owned United States flag carrier were becoming increasingly complex. Unlike many of its state-owned foreign competitors, Pan Am lacked ready access to governmental sources of information, analysis and general support. "The airline's success is highly dependent upon its ability to make timely and accurate evaluations of foreign financial, economic and political developments that affect the overall direction of its affairs," Mr Seawell said. "Our advisory board will be able to provide informed and relevant guidance." He said Pan Am had produced encouraging financial results during the first eight months of this year. The operating profit was \$55m compared with \$4m for the same period last year, and the net profit \$45m compared with a loss of \$14.5m.

COURTNEY, POPE (HOLDINGS) LIMITED

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT
The audited result of the financial year ended 31st May, 1977 is as follows:

	1977	1976
	000's	000's
Turnover	15,724	11,353
Profit before tax	732	560
Taxation	263	203
Profit after tax	349	257
Earnings per 20p share (after Tax)	7.10p	5.23p
Dividend: (per Share)		
Proposed Final	1.1646p	1.188p
Making Total for Year	2.1646p	1.958p

External sales of £15,724,000 (£11,353,000) and profits of £732,130 (£560,292) are both more than 30% in advance of last year's all time record for the Group. These figures have been achieved after absorbing a continued loss in the Lighting division although currently this area is recovering. A further progression in profits constitutes a record result and an increase in return on invested capital. The extent of the Group's diversification has enabled us to maintain advances in both volume and profit in a year which has been difficult with the continued lack of industrialised building projects.

Your Directors feel confident that your Company will make a further significant advance in both sales and profits during the current year and as indicated in the Interim Report, once again recommend an increase in the final dividend by the maximum permissible under current legislation.

The Group's efforts to export more have proved very worthwhile. In 1976, we exported in excess of £1,500,000 in the current year. In addition, we have succeeded in negotiating licensing agreements to manufacture the Group's products in Japan, North America, Portugal, South Africa and Qatar.

L. R. Courtney, Chairman.

How the markets moved

SES	18p to 99p	12p to 35p
Gold	15p to 35p	12p to 35p
Oil	25p to 48p	12p to 35p
Silver	20p to 30p	12p to 35p
Aluminium	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Lead	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Steel	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Coal	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Gas	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Electricity	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Water	12p to 44p	12p to 35p
Other	12p to 44p	12p to 35p

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	buy	sell
Australia	1.63	1.58
Canada	1.25	1.20
Denmark	1.15	1.10
France	6.55	6.40
Germany	4.20	3.98
Greece	64.75	62.25
Hong Kong	8.40	8.20
Italy	155.00	151.00
Japan	482.00	456.00
Netherlands	4.46	4.24
Norway	9.86	9.50
Portugal	75.30	69.50
Spain	169.50	164.25
Sweden	8.71	8.36
Switzerland	4.27	4.05
US	1.79	1.74
Yugoslavia	37.25	35.00

Gold gained \$1 an ounce to \$155.375.
SDB-4 was 1.6689p on Monday.
SDB-5 was 1.6657p on Monday.
Commodities: Rubber index was at 1502.4 (previous 1506.9).
Reports pages 22 and 23

Business appointments
appointments vacant 8, 12, 13
11.50p
Base Rates Table

Interim Statements:
Brown Bros. 20
James Neil 21

Sir Derek hopeful on exports to EEC

By Melvyn Westlake

Within a couple of years Britain could eliminate its deficit with the European Economic Community on its trade in manufactured goods, according to Sir Derek, chairman of the Area Advisory Group of the British Overseas Trade Board, and head of the National Coal Board.

He was speaking at a lunch in London in advance of a national conference being held at the Wembley Conference Centre on November 29 to promote exports to Western Europe.

The conference will be opened by Sir Frederick Cathwood, chairman of the BOTB and chaired by Sir Derek. Mr. Dell, the Secretary of State for Trade, is also expected to attend.

Sir Derek said yesterday that since 1974 there had been an improvement in the balance of trade in manufactured goods with Western Europe. This followed a decade in which Britain's deficit in this sector had become steadily more adverse.

Since 1972, the proportion of Britain's exports going to Western Europe had risen from just over 30 per cent, to 52 per cent in 1976. At the same time, the proportion going to Commonwealth markets had dropped from 38 per cent to 15 per cent.

Sir Derek said that he was against allowing the exchange rate of the pound to rise against other currencies. This would introduce another element of uncertainty for our exporters.

Next month's conference, he said, would include case studies of four companies which have experienced and overcome some of the practical problems of exporting to Western Europe.

These are Marks & Spencer; Hamworthy Engineering, of Poole; Colt International, of Havant, Hampshire, and Bevan Funnell, of Newhaven, Sussex. Exporting to Western Europe, 1977, is the culmination of a series of Export Dynamics Conferences held throughout Britain during the past two years. Between 6,000 and 10,000 companies have been invited to attend.

Voluntary liquidation for Liberian tanker concern

By Peter Hill

International Correspondent

Phillips Petroleum confirmed yesterday that a shipping company in which it has an interest had declared itself insolvent. The company is the Liberian-based Multinational Gas and Petrochemical which is involved in the transport of liquefied petroleum gases and chemicals. The oil company holds a 43.5 per cent interest in Multinational through its subsidiary Philtankers Inc, with the balance of shares in the company held by the French concern, Société Anonyme de Gérance et d'Armement.



Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Gordon Borrie and Mr Charles Williams at yesterday's seminar: measuring the watchdog's role.

Hint of Price and Monopolies merger

By Patricia Tisdall

The possibility of an amalgamation of the Price Commission with the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was discussed at a seminar on the new price code in London yesterday. Speaking about the possible overlapping functions of the two organisations, Mr Charles Williams, chairman of the Price Commission, said that in his view a fusion was "more a question of administration than principle".

Since some 700 sectors of British industry had been identified as containing potential monopolies, it was not possible for the Monopolies Commission alone to investigate all of them under its present structure and method of working.

Mr Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, thought that "the present roles of the two commissions are complementary". He added that it was a mistake to think that, after the creation of

the new Price Commission, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission had been left with little to do.

"Fusion may well be desirable in due course," said Mr Borrie, "but I think it is worth making two points on this. Firstly, the MMC is a body of 30 years' experience and, although no one in industry likes the burden of an MMC inquiry, few would dispute the thoroughness, fairness and judicial care it brings to bear on its work."

"Secondly, now the Price Commission has been reconstituted, further institutional change should not be made before there is adequate experience of its work."

The Price Commission, even when it examined the relationship between price levels and anti-competitive practices in a certain sector of industry, was essentially concerned with making a judgement only as to whether current or proposed price levels were justified.

The Monopolies Commission had frequently been asked to look deeper, to examine the basic structure of an industry and to investigate anti-competitive practices which were not necessarily concerned immediately with price levels. These included practices such as refusal to supply and exclusive dealing arrangements.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer and one of the architects of the first phase of price controls, commented that "price control must be seen as being on its way out."

He added that "Coexistence of the Price Commission and the Monopolies Commission must be seen as difficult to justify on a long-term basis."

Examining the operation of new price controls, Mr Williams said companies were having to spend too much time to comply with the system. He is meeting the Confederation of British Industry next week to see if it can be simplified.

Imports force cuts in US steel prices

Pittsburgh, Oct 3.—Because of heavy competition from low-price imports, American domestic steel prices have been softening in recent months, compounding the industry's profit problems, a spokesman for the United States Steel Corporation said.

Steel buyers report that in response to the competitive pressure, big domestic mills are selling some steel at below list prices, either directly or through distributors.

These buyers claim the discounts that are available on a wide range of products, including sheets, an item that has been buoyed by consumer-goods demand most of this year and last.

The import pressure comes on top of an already sluggish domestic steel market. Capital spending demand for heavy steel products continues to lag behind industry hopes, and car makers' demand for lighter,

flat-rolled products has been one of the few consistent bright spots.

With profits down in this uncertain market, many steel-makers have taken harsh belt-tightening steps in recent weeks, including plant closings and lay-offs.

Any action by the Carter Administration to restrict steel imports could ease the industry's pricing pressure, even if demand remains somewhat sluggish.

Kenya coffee crop sets new record at £250m

From Our Correspondent

Nairobi, Oct 3

Kenya's coffee production has set a new record of more than 96,000 tonnes for the crop year to the end of September. This surpasses last year's record of 80,000 tonnes and with average prices this year even higher, Kenya has earned about £250m from the 1976-77 crop.

This is about two and a half times the figure earned for the previous season's crop, and coffee earnings are the main component in the wave of prosperity now affecting Kenya.

Normally, a record crop such as that achieved for 1976-77 would be followed by a smaller crop. But exceptionally good rains fell at the end of 1976 and throughout most of this year, producing an unprecedented increase in the output of coffee.

Although market prices have fallen considerably from earlier levels—last week's Nairobi coffee auction averaged about £1,835 a ton, or much less than half the levels achieved earlier this year—the average for the crop year is still about £2,800 a ton, which is much higher than last year's average price.

CSA survey to support export proposals

The Computing Services Association, which represents 135 companies in the computer bureau, software and consultancy industry, is to conduct a survey of its members as a prelude to putting forward firm proposals for government support for their export activities.

Mr Peter Merrick of Lowndes-Ajax Computer Service, the newly elected president of the CSA, told members last week that the association would welcome a more general extension of its principles of government support for exports indicated by the National Enterprise Board's Inspec scheme (which involves companies in which the NEB holds an equity stake).

Something similar to the existing Software Products Scheme, under which the Government contributes half the cost of development, might be desirable, the CSA president suggested last week.

Other possible forms of assistance would include a reduction (from the present £10m) in the contract value on which the Government can guarantee 50 per cent of the cost of bidding on overseas projects; more easily arranged performance guarantees through the Export Credits Guarantee Department;

Computer news

and the adoption of double deductions for export costs for tax purposes.

According to Department of Industry statistics, work for foreign clients accounted for about £12m of the computer services industry's total £223m in 1976, or between 5 per cent and 6 per cent.

Braille production

A computer-based system for the production of braille literature has been ordered by the Royal National Institute for the Blind. This includes two DEC 4070 computers, Lynwood input and text-editing visual-display terminals, and braille editing terminals developed by Sigma Electronic Systems.

The equipment will be used in the RNIB's new printing centre to speed publication of an increased range of braille books and periodicals for educational, vocational and recreational purposes.

Operators at 16 text-entry terminals will key in text from

English originals. The computer system will translate this into braille output coded on to magnetic tape cassettes. These will control embossing machines which punch the braille characters on to zinc plates suitable for use on printing presses.

Tesco's mini

Tesco, the supermarket group, is to use a Computer Automation mini-computer to control the receipt, allocation, transfer and loading of "Home n' West" goods at the group's warehouse in Milton Keynes.

This warehouse holds about £10m worth of stock. The system automatically allocates goods received (by issuing pallet tickets instructing the fork-lift drivers where to store the goods); and transfers the correct amount of already stored goods to a special area where the are loaded on to delivery vans according to picking lists generated by the company's ICL 1904S mainframe computer at Chesham.

UCSL chooses Ite

Unilever Computer Services Ltd (UCSL) has ordered an Ite Advance System AS/5-1 com-

puter (functionally equivalent to an IBM 370/158) for its Burgess Hill computer centre. This is the first sale by Ite of an Advance System in the United Kingdom.

According to Mr Len Rawle, UCSL chairman, the decision was based principally on cost-performance considerations, and involved extensive comparative studies.

Stock management

A new materials management system which has been implemented by the Comshare bureau in a number of engineering and manufacturing companies is now being generally marketed—initially with an emphasis on mechanical engineering companies which assemble products from piece parts.

Known as BOSS, the system uses a terminal in the user's office which is connected to the Comshare timesharing network to provide the processing and control of stock levels, demands on stock and supplies into stock.

In addition the user can simulate the effect of various production plans on existing and expected stock levels.

Kenneth Owen

Leyland Cars faces another strike threat

Leyland Cars could face a second strike threat, soon. Leaders of 3,000 toolroom workers have already called an all-out stoppage from October 28 over their demand for separate negotiating rights, now representatives of 14,000 other skilled workers are to approach the management with a similar claim for talks on a single craft agreement.

Leyland, intent on introducing corporate wage bargaining, are expected to refuse. Mr Alan Young, chairman of the newly formed Leyland Craft Organisation, said yesterday that his members might join the toolmakers on strike.

"We do not see strike action as a way of achieving anything but when it comes to the last resort," he said. The craftsmen's leaders are deferring a decision on whether to link up with the toolmakers until they get an answer from the company.

Asked if, in view of Leyland's financial plight, they would go ahead with their strike, Mr Roy Fraser, the toolmen's leader, said it would be the management's responsibility if they were forced into another dispute.

The strike need not take place "but we are determined to place a situation where our views are heard at the negotiating table".

Marina dispute: Marina output at Leyland Cars assembly plant at Cowley was halted yesterday by an internal dispute which caused 1,000 workers to be laid off.

In brief

N Sea oil output up in August

Oil output from the British sector of the North Sea rose to more than 821,000 barrels a day during August, from just under 768,000 barrels a day in the previous month, according to figures issued yesterday by the Department of Energy.

Production is still not back to the record 836,000 barrels a day reached during May because the oil companies took advantage of improved summer weather for maintenance and new construction work.

British Petroleum turned down the taps on the biggest producer, the Forthies field, while it installed gas-processing facilities, and the Brent field was completely shut down for the installation of gas injection facilities.

BAT launches cigarette in UK

British-American Tobacco, a division of BAT Industries, announced yesterday that it is to embark on a full-scale marketing launch into the United Kingdom cigarette market. The decision follows 18 months of test marketing of its State Express 555 brand of cigarette mainly in the south of England.

Despite its size—it claims to be the world's largest tobacco company—BAT's was prohibited until 1972 from selling cigarettes in Britain under an international reciprocal trading agreement with Imperial Tobacco.

Social settles Libyan dispute

Standard Oil of California (SOCAL) has ended its four-year-old dispute with the Libyan Government resulting from the nationalisation of its 50 per cent share in the Amoesas consortium in 1973 and 1974.

During a period of 15 months it will receive crude oil worth \$76m (£43m) and in return will send arbitration proceedings against Libya.

SOCAL's partner in Amoesas, reached a similar settlement with Libya at the end of last month.

Community price rises of 0.4pc

Brussels, Oct 3.—Consumer price indexes in August in the European Community rose an average of 0.4 per cent over the July figures, Eurostat, the EEC statistics office said today. The July figure was 0.3 per cent up on June.

While on a month-to-month basis the average inflation rate appeared to have accelerated slightly, the price increase in a year—measured in August at 10.5 per cent—AP-Dow Jones.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Little accountability for hardship of sub-post office closures

From Mrs Ruth Lyon

Sir, On September 26 in *The Times* the Post Office, in reply to the letter of Mr John Lyon on this subject which you published on September 21, wrote that "as life styles change, as populations shift and society generally alters with the passage of time, so the sub-post office system has to adjust to meet these changing needs of our customers." I was fascinated.

To meet these changing needs the Post Office are closing a local sub-post office which today is busier than at any time in its history—paying out some £5,000 each week in pensions and allowances—in addition to its large postage, licence and giro business. The area it serves, far from declining, is booming with extensive new private housing and a new industrial estate within a quarter mile of the post office.

In the future the need for the post office will be even greater because of the development of a three-acre housing estate, the building of council sheltered housing units for 66 pensioners, the continuing replacement of old houses, shoreroads and shops, and the occupation of a three-storey office block by a government department.

It is quite clear that whilst the story is not wholly of closures and reductions, the communities will be so far from the provision of facilities upon which they rely. In passing, why should the provision in towns be twice as good as that in the countryside? In most towns there are reasonable transport facilities; in most rural areas there are not.

I have looked quickly at the map this morning and it is clear to me that if the Post Office were to close in this district alone, this conflict with the evidence which the Post Office apparently gave to the Countryside Review Com-

mission, since in their discussion paper on rural communities they say "although many sub-post offices in rural areas are uneconomic the Post Office do not plan to reduce their number".

It is, of course, not communications and postal services that are under consideration here. That may be all of the Post Office sets out to provide, but the sub-post office plays a much more important part in the whole fabric of a rural community, and alongside the schools and the local authority is also an effective way of life to be maintained. What some people see as inevitable decline, now deterioration of village life, which some of us in government, with the aid of such valuable allies as Countryside Commission and Development Commission, believe to be reversible and able to sustain a pattern of life which many of those urban areas would do well to attempt to emulate.

If the Post Office is to be maintained, I suspect they will need to take into account the fact that they are to be set out much more clearly the criteria which intend to use and to deal with all affected bodies, such as the local authority, the National Association of Local Councils, the plan to which they are working. I have seen sub-post offices closed and believed it to be because people were not willing to take the job on. It appears, however, to be much more a matter of Post Office policy as to less to be deployed because of that.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS BROWN,
Eden District Council,
Town Hall,
Purth,
Cumbria, CA11 7QF.

Consequently, the corporation could not put the authorized tariff increases into effect. The corporation would have lost too much traffic to the uncontrolled and fly-by-night road transport. In short, while the government imposed ever higher costs, it did not "enable" the corporation to increase its income proportionately. The corporation was left with a large deficit and a large backlog of unpaid interest on the loan.

The corporation, like other foreign companies, has been accused of making too much money out of its operations. The facts are that the corporation was ever paid on the ordinary stock since the start in 1890; that dividends on the preference stock ceased in 1912; and that £1,000 of bonds acquired in 1890 were worth £1.50 (nominal) in 1967, with accumulated unpaid interest of \$990.

Yours truly
MICHAEL LUBBOCK
Apartment 206
1785 Riverside Drive
Oswego
Ontario
Canada
September 13.

World Bank loan to Peru based on 10 year budget

From Mr Michael Lubbock

Sir, I refer to the Peruvian Ambassador's letter (September 26) about the Peruvian Corporation, of which I was executive deputy chairman from 1960 to 1968. During this period I negotiated the World Bank loan.

The loan was based on a 10-year budget which showed that the corporation could meet the loan charges, given certain conditions. The most vital provision was in the government's loan guarantee agreement with the bank, which said that the government would grant such tariffs as would "enable" (the operative word) the corporation to meet all its costs, including loan service.

The government did in fact authorize annual tariff increases which mathematically covered the annual wage increase of the corporation. The fact was that the corporation was ever paid on the ordinary stock since the start in 1890; that dividends on the preference stock ceased in 1912; and that £1,000 of bonds acquired in 1890 were worth £1.50 (nominal) in 1967, with accumulated unpaid interest of \$990.

Yours truly
MICHAEL LUBBOCK
Apartment 206
1785 Riverside Drive
Oswego
Ontario
Canada
September 13.

'Too much law' paradox

From Mr Charles L. Dodd

The comment by Sir Geoffrey Howe in the recently published Conservative Party pamphlet *Too Much Law* that it is hard to see the case for the survival of the present shop closing law would not be surprising, in view of its source, were it not contained in an official publication of a party headed by one who professes a long association with and a close knowledge of the needs of the small shopkeeper.

Further, in view of the attitude of the party to the Clay Cross scandal and similar matters which have led the party to preach the sanctity of the law, it is surprising to see in the official Conservative publication the suggestion that because the law is widely disregarded, it should be abolished.

The fact is, of course, that certain promoters of Sunday markets are making a vast fortune from breaking the law and the publicity given to their antics perhaps prompts Sir Geoffrey to imagine that the

abolition of the restrictions on the opening hours of shops is a vote catcher. He should be careful.

He would be wise to enter into discussions with the National Chamber of Trade before he pursues his ideas further or he may well be faced with the same tragic reaction that followed the last-minute vote-casting exercise of Mr. Heath in the abolition of resale price maintenance.

Sir Geoffrey should recognize that at a time when employees generally are looking for shorter working hours and more pay, the small shopkeeper also looks for a degree of relief. Leaves shop hours alone Sir Geoffrey, or you could well lead your party to the opportunity to regret at leisure, in a further period in opposition, a busy and ill-conceived policy.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES L. DODD,
Chairman,
The National Chamber of Trade,
Enterprise House, Hestley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG3 1TU,
September 27.

Not a mention of money supply

From Mr R. G. Opie

Sir, In today's issue (September 28) you publish two long feature articles. One analysed the success of the Japanese economy, the second the problems of the world economy. Neither mentioned, even once, the supply of money or DCE or even the PSBR.

Sir, is nothing sacred? Yours faithfully,
R. G. OPIE,
New College, 100, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BN,
September 28.

Group Results for year to 30 April

Turnover £14,674,905 £12,328,976
Profit before Taxation £2,643,698 £2,049,224
Profit after Taxation £2,084,817 £1,265,969
Earnings per Share 12.75p 7.74p
Dividend per Share 2.531p 1.9082p
Dividend Cover 5.58 times 4.06 times

Brown Brothers Corporation Limited

7 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2DE

E. G. Spearing, Executive Chairman, comments:

"In a period in which the industries we serve have had problems, our profits and earnings have exceeded forecasts and we expect these trends to continue."

Profits and Earnings surge ahead

	Six Months 30.6.77	Six Months 30.6.76	% Increase 1977 on 1976
Turnover	31,950	27,853	14.7%
Pre-Tax Profit	1,290	750	72.0%
Interim Dividend	0.5p	0.2p	150.0%
Earnings per share	1.275p	0.810p	57.4%

The vehicle component distribution and engineering Group

JAMES WALKER

Goldsmith & Silversmith

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman Mr. Gerald S. Sanders

After the fall in turnover and profits in 1976 the results for the current year once more show a return towards the record levels of 1975.

Had it not been for the restrictive legislation, your Board would have given serious consideration to paying a dividend more in line with the earnings of your Company.

The whole of your Group's assets are free of any charges and encumbrances and we are therefore very well placed should the opportunity for any major acquisition by the Group present itself.

Since the end of this year I am happy to report that turnover continues to show an encouraging increase over the record turnover for 1975.

Group Results for year to 30 April

	1977	1976
Turnover	£14,674,905	£12,328,976
Profit before Taxation	£2,643,698	£2,049,224
Profit after Taxation	£2,084,817	£1,265,969
Earnings per Share	12.75p	7.74p
Dividend per Share	2.531p	1.9082p
Dividend Cover	5.58 times	4.06 times

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, James Walker Goldsmith & Silversmith Limited, Century House, Streatham High Road, London SW16 6BB.

E EDITOR
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

UDT to join the options bandwagon

ited Dominions Trust, the instalment group, may take a stake in the London Clearing House. Owned at present by four major jobbers and the broking of Vickers da Costa, LOCH is to run proposed market in Standard Exercise Options and, with a capital of £2.5m, guarantee the options contracts.

The emergence of this new stakeholder from the work UDT's subsidiary, International Clearing House, has been carried out for LOCH in drafting programme for the introduction of the options market.

A programme should be presented to the then to the Options Committee of Stock Exchange within the next few days, and, if adopted, will form the basis of dummy traded options run which the firm expect to try some time this winter.



James Dundas Hamilton, chairman of the Committee of the Stock Exchange.

clearing members now believe that they in a position to start the education of market to the ways of traded options and mass option minded brokers who might be interested in taking a stake in LOCH. DT's offshoot, ICCB, seems a natural participant. It clears and guarantees commodity futures contracts for its members such as the size of the amounts it lies, its capital was raised five-fold last to £12.5m.

Meanwhile the seemingly slow progress of a traded option market's introduction as two further points. First, the experience of Option Committee members on recent fact finding trip to the United States suggests that the Securities Exchange Commission called a halt to the use of traded options simply because it lost the thread of its development—stalling to watch if London is ill-prepared to trade options.

cond, with relevance to the debate now way about London's current jobbing system, the scrutiny of LOCH's assets assumes a determination to avoid capacity.

Currys profits slipped from £3.7m to £3.2m in the half-year to July despite a rise of £822,000 from provisions for its trading against £259,000 in the corresponding half. But the 12p fall in the price to 200p had more to do with the disappointing comments about trading in second half.

The market is looking for growing profits in consumer groups as the cumulative effects of tax rebates, mortgage interest rate

reductions and phase three pay rises, begun to push through into spending. Currys comments that trading conditions continue to put pressure on margins and volume is still about the same as last year's is no more than natural caution about when the upturn will materialize, and should be treated as such. The omens are still good.

Its acquisition of the 77 Loyds shops a year ago will have tended to depress margins, as they are at the small end of the Currys range, but they are building market share and a fall in credit business in the half is not more than was to be expected while the outlook remained uncertain.

But while the pace of wage rises is likely to work in Currys's favour this half, the real improvement looks unlikely to develop until next year when general optimism about the economy should be rising. If the market has been a little too early to anticipate the trend, both Comet and Dixons have been over-enthusiastic performers this half, and though unlikely to outperform in the short-term, now has the best potential of the three.

Mail order

As costs level out

Mail order groups do not catch the upturn in retail sales quite as quickly as the stores sector. But even without this rapid gearing element the three pure mail-order companies have fully managed to hold their own against the rest of the retailers over the past couple of months.

With precious little volume growth in the 28 weeks to the end of August—only 3 per cent in the overall 19 per cent volume rise to £77.6m—the key to the 22.3 per cent gain in Freemans pre-tax profits to £5.52m has been the slow-down in cost increases, which have helped trading margins improve almost half a point to 7.6 per cent.

In part this has resulted from Freemans' deliberate policy a year ago to cut out unprofitable agents and tighten up financing of debtors. So unlike Littlewoods, for example, Freemans has not been keen to chase volume at the expense of profits.

For the rest, March and July wage awards have raised labour costs by not much more than 5 per cent against almost double that figure a year ago and printing and distribution costs, too, have dropped from last year's high levels.

But after more than doubling since their low of a year ago when high interest rates cast a shadow over the whole sector, the scope in the shares now lies in what they can produce in 1978-79 since any stimulus to the economy will come too late to affect the second-half. For its part, Freemans is unusually confident about next year and with few cost pressures sales gains of 15 per cent could easily be translated in profits gains of double that.

For the moment, however, Freemans should make £12.6m this year putting the shares on a prospective p/e ratio of around 12 at 318p, up 6p yesterday. Freemans is now boosting its agents and given the streamlined warehouse system is intrinsically better placed to handle any upturn than Grattan for instance.

slow road back in partworks

shall Cavendish is now two years into programme for spreading its profits base a wider area than the partwork publishing which was the inspiration at the pany's birth 10 years ago.

Partwork publishing, selling magazines kly so that they form over a period into complete encyclopaedia proved a money-maker for the company for its first five years and culminated in profits of £3.7m in 2, the year of its flotation.

ut profits have never reached that level in, so Marshall, though continuing to ard partworks as a growth area, is divering into more traditional book and ic publishing.

Underlying stability in the cash flow is vided by a continuous contribution from ideas working themselves through sign markets and into new editions. But a difficult business to forecast and has combined with the fact that shall has always been regarded as a mil-

asset company which have made the shares unattractive to institutional investors in the past.

Its profits performance has not helped either, and the latest figure of £1.2m pretax, just marginally up on the interim last year, holds out little hope of the company returning to its 1972 peak even though results so far have been depressed by a considerable amount of launch spending.

Recently, there have been signs of the institutions overcoming their misgivings. The placing of the 11.7 per cent stake held by the British Printing Corporation went smoothly in April and another 500,000 shares from the Gresham Trust's 16 per cent holding were lapped up eagerly last year.

The shares at 52p, down 11p yesterday, compared with the flotation price in 1972 of 412p are not unattractive on income grounds with a yield of 11.6 per cent, and could be helped by any pickup in consumer spending.

Business Diary: Morrell's special offer • Whither CBI?

de Morrell, who some say the first Englishman to be man of the board of one of the United States top 500 panics, may now have been the first to give an African firm to the English. Morrell has acquired the for-family firm, John Morrell Company from its presenters, United Brands Inc, for undisclosed sum and has in the ordinary shares to a r for the benefit of the 600 shareholders.

se firm, which can vege- preservatives, and dog food, headquarters in Liverpool, factories in Lincolnshire, se 1920's it became the sub- sary of its own offspring, the Chicago-based com- John Morrell went public and Morrell spent 20 years the two firms, including the chairman of the board, the American end, retiring 1969 when they were led by United Brands.

an Stead, chairman of the sh firm and Morrell's suc- r in the United Kingdom. Business Diary's Ross as last night that Morrell's offer to buy back the some time ago after Stead reported UB's instructions ok around for a buyer.

orell at once offered to buy firm and present it to their loyees - to bid the deal re, Stead said but the deal until the passage of 1976 Finance Act made it that such a transaction not incur capital transfer.

B wanted to get out of the ung business, Stead said, over last year was £14.6m, profits £400,000.

Turnover this year will be £17m, although the profit ratio is likely to be less favourable, mainly because of weather problems.

The company will come to the employees with the financial backing of two institutions, the clearing banks Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation and Midland Industrial Investments.

They are each to subscribe £400,000 for preference shares and to provide £350,000 as a nine-year loan with a repayment "holiday" for the first four years. First National Bank of Chicago and Barclays Bank will continue part support with overdraft facilities.

Stead said that no change in management was seen apart from the arrival on the board of ICF and MIV directors, and, for the time being, no workers' disputes.

Claude Morrell, who is now 83, lives in a Merseyside nursing home. His wife died last year and they had no children.

What price the emergence of a Confederation of British Business are long?

This would seem to be the implication of the broadening of the membership of the CBI since John Methven succeeded Campbell Adamson last year.

The confederation at one time represented manufacturing industry, but a number of retail firms like Marks & Spencer have followed insurance firms into the fold.

Next month, moreover, the CBI is to hold its first national conference, something of which few of its continental counterparts can boast. Modelled on

the Trades Union Congress, this will show publicly to what extent the leadership can claim to speak for the membership.

Methven, no less Len Murray or the leaders of the three main parties, must have a taste for standing ovations. What better way to speak off one such than to announce the renaming in a keynote speech.

The theme of the conference is, after all, "Britain Means Business".

First, however, he will have to talk his way out of the row with ministers over his apparent readiness to endorse 10 per cent plus pay settlements by his members, while exhorting the TUC to stand firm on 10 per cent minus claims by theirs.

If ministers stop the new state oil, shipping and aerospace corporations from affiliating to the CBI, the case for a CBB begins to look thin. He also needs back the Post Office, which walked out two years ago, saying the CBI did not speak up for nationalized industry.

Some bright spark in the United States Department of Labour (always in the van of equal opportunity movement) has dreamed up a campaign to persuade employers to take on alcoholics and drug addicts. Cocktail party cynics now are saying that the only problem about hiring alcoholics is that they are all already working as corporation vice-presidents. Perhaps drug addicts will come easier.

The latest new issue from stockbrokers Rowe Pimman is not a company but a Lord Mayor of the City of London.

During this period of twilight government, when the traditional colours of the parties are not too obvious, we may see one or two pieces of legislation which are drafted with better than-average skill. If this happens, it will be in areas where the Civil Service has been quietly building up its expertise, with little or no "aggro" from the day-by-day political battle.

A case in point is profit-sharing and employee share ownership. Mr David Steel, MP, revealed at the Liberal Conference last week that he had been promised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer a consultative document on the subject, now being prepared by the Treasury with a view to introducing legislation in next year's Budget.

One might ask, but why legislate? Surely it has always been possible for companies to pay some of their profits to employees and to have this money allowable as a cost, for corporation tax purposes? Yes, it has, but worldwide experience of cash profit-sharing has not been very rewarding.

As a consequence, in the United States, only 2.5 per cent of the total of over 200,000 profit-sharing schemes now involve cash only, another 17.5 per cent involve cash and shares and the other 80.2 per cent involve the issue of shares only to employees.

Where shares are issued, there is the problem of the effect on share values if these new shares are immediately saleable. ICI experience in this respect has been better than is generally supposed. Seventeen years after the company introduced their employee share scheme in 1954, a census of the share register revealed that 37 per cent of all the shares issued to employees were still in the same hands.

Nevertheless, in the last 23 years few companies have dared to do a full limitation of the ICI scheme. Barclays Bank and Lucas Industries have issued shares to managers and Marks & Spencer are planning to issue them to long service employees.

But the crucial test in any company is this: If last year's profits were shared with all the shareholders, were there help make them, and if the money was invested in new issue shares which were immediately saleable, would this flood the market and make a mockery of the idea of widening share ownership?

At present only 3.8 per cent of people of working age and above in Britain own shares, according to a survey by Professor E. Victor Morgan of Reading University. By contrast 25 per cent own shares in the United States, according to the research of Professor Philip Blumberg of the University of Connecticut. Britain is therefore at a crossroads: to take the wrong direction could be a disaster for the cause of individual ownership and for the personal freedom which goes with it.

Those who want employee shares to be immediately saleable are possibly confusing stock market investment with industrial investment. When a company invests some of its profits in a new factory and at the same time capitalizes part of those profits and issues shares to employees, there is no way in which individual ownership can be maintained.

Imagine an employee saying to the managing director: "I don't agree with the new factory. I want to invest elsewhere, so leave a few panels off the roof and give me cash instead."

When council houses are sold to tenants in Britain, there is usually a required holding period of five years. When shares are issued to employees in France and Germany, they are required to hold them for five years. The typical average holding period could be obtained if there was a compulsory holding period somewhat shorter. Alternatively, if the tax system could encourage employees to hold shares but at the same time the firms were to sell, this could provide a compromise between the City view of portfolio investment and the industrial view of complete project investment.

Although the forthcoming consultative document arises from a Liberal pact with a

Two years earlier, Professor Turner was co-author of a study of labour relations in motor manufacturing. He was struck then by the fact that one of the major firms had been totally strike-free. Why, he asked himself, was the strike record of these firms so different from that of the majority?

Research had shown big differences in management organization, particularly in the way labour relations were handled. Was the peaceful record of some undertakings due to particular methods of management and, if so, could these methods be identified? He and his colleagues tried to find out and this study is the result. It was in the course of their investigations that they came to question "conventional wisdom" about management and labour relations.

The thesis that managements get the kind of labour relations they deserve is preposterously dismissed: "This says, in effect, that 'good' managements get 'good' industrial relations and approximate to a proposal in which the virtue is always rewarded in this world) which would, in the light of other

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Five months after the launch of the mini television with a two-inch screen, Sinclair Radios, which received almost £2m of National Enterprise Board funds to pursue the venture is getting a picture of who is prepared to spend £225 for the luxury of carrying around a set in his pocket.

Clive Sinclair, the chairman, told Business Diary yesterday that in the United States, which is getting more than half of the 2,000 sets a month being produced at the St Ives factory, he believes purchasers include sports fans who take their TVs to events in order to watch action replays.

In Britain, one was bought by a chauffeur, bored with waiting for his master to return to the car while others have been sold to long-distance rail travellers. Sinclair says that demand is high from people earning less than £4,000 a year which, he maintains, disproves the theory that the set is only a rich man's toy.

Production is to be doubled next month but will still not be enough to satisfy the market. Sinclair now suspects that the Japanese are developing a similar product which may be on sale next year.

Jargon corner: they've struck a rich vein of "situations" at Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting, where the chairman Ronald Fraser managed to get through three in one page of one speech, in which "the metal price situation, in copper and zinc particularly dominates the situation".

He and his elder brother, the present baron, a former United Nations official who lives in Switzerland—married to Vanessa's wife, a Canadian ballet dancer—traced back to the 14th century to a Thomas Leggy, twice Lord Mayor.

He is a senior partner, Peter Vanneck, who takes over from Sir Robin Giffert next month.

Like his predecessor, there is a strong Commonwealth and nautical strain in Vanneck. Sir Robin served with Canadian Pacific before becoming a Lloyd's underwriter. Vanneck was educated in Australia, where his father, the fifth Baron Huntingfield, was acting Governor-General, and began his career in the Royal Navy.

Vanneck's switch to the City, which came after a spell as an agricultural engineer, is in a sense a throwback since his family were prominent in the Dutch banking community here from the time of William of Orange to the last century.

George Copeman on the background to the Government's paper on worker shareholdings

When everybody gains from sharing

Surely the issue of shares to employees is a dilution of the equity? If the issues are kept below the 'equilibrium point' all the participants gain. If exceeded there is dilution.

Labour Government, possibly the best tax proposals on share schemes are contained in a Conservative Party consultative document published last March. This built on the experience of the Habitat employee share scheme. In July 1976, Habitat introduced a deferred profit-sharing scheme which had been the subject of much new thinking and which enabled the Inland Revenue to develop tax concepts that are widespread abroad though relatively new to Britain.

Basic to the system is the idea that a company can set profits aside on behalf of employees and thereby claim corporation tax relief, but the money is invested in shares of the company so that the employee does not obtain immediate benefit. In the eyes of the Revenue, the employee is not liable to pay income tax until he actually obtains "indeefeasible right" to the shares, which may be some years later.

What the Conservative "green paper" did was to carry on from the work of Habitat, Bulmer and other companies which have developed deferred profit-sharing schemes. It took up the idea that there ought to be a tapered tax for deferred income invested in shares. The longer an employee held the shares, the lower the rate of

tax paid when he sold. There would of course have to be an upper limit to the value of shares on which an individual could claim this concession.

The enthusiastic view of the green paper was that a tax taper might reduce to zero after five years, as in France and Germany. This is probably too drastic. What Britain needs is to improve on the ICI experience of employee shareholding, not to smother it with over-indulgence.

If the future basic income tax rate in Britain is likely to be around 30 per cent, I would want to see a tax taper which imposed full income tax liability when an employee sold shares within two years of issue and which then fell by perhaps 3 or 4 per cent a year to a level of 20 per cent for shares held five years or longer.

In my experience, there are plenty of employees who would hold shares for five years if they could thereby bring their tax charge down to 20 per cent. If a modest tax taper proved to be inadequate, some future Chancellor could steepen it, but one ought to start modestly.

Over three-quarters of the working population are employed in the market sector and we depend on them for the bulk of our home supplies, plus our export income. A tax taper which enabled them to share in the profits when their companies were successful and which at the same time made them shareholders, could provide a much needed incentive to extra effort.

This is not easy to prove, though it is common sense. An admittedly limited American study has shown that over an 18-year period a sample of companies with deferred profit-sharing schemes were outstandingly more successful than a similar sample which did not have such schemes.

If employees really want shares, why do they not save up and buy them? Personal saving out of take-home pay is not in fact a normal way of acquiring shares, except when someone starts a new business. As my article in these columns on August 26, 1976 showed ("Share ownership and the limited influence of parsimony"), in the 10 years 1965-74, some 52.5 per cent of new capital formation took place inside existing bus-

nesses, through the reinvestment of profits. 22.9 per cent occurred in central and local government, also 22.4 per cent took place through pension funds, life insurance policies, mortgage and hire-purchase repayments. The non-profit bodies accounted for 1.1 per cent and a figure of 1.1 per cent remains for all net personal saving, by which I mean genuine self-interest. It is clear that unless there are employee share schemes, the distribution of share ownership is likely to remain extremely narrow.

Surely the issue of shares to employees is a dilution of the equity? This depends on the size of the issue. The basic mathematics of employee shareholding was done by a German economist named Thünen in the last century. What the modern world has been able to learn from Thünen and has seen demonstrated by American practice is that there is an equilibrium point in employee share issues. If the issues are kept below this level, the shareholders and the employees both gain. If the equilibrium point is exceeded, there is dilution.

What about those who do not work in the market sector? Why should the marketeers have a special tax concession? One advantage of using a very modest tax taper is that those who cannot benefit, have less objection. The non-marketeers already have better pensions and more secure jobs. It is a matter of "horses for courses".

Finally, it may be said that the "Lab-Lib" consultative document will be very timely in view of the Department of Employment's work in approving profit-sharing schemes, as one form of self-financing productivity deal.

Those who are engaged in devising schemes of this kind inevitably find that there is a limit to the cash which employees can take out of the business without being in danger of eating the seedcorn needed for tomorrow's harvest. They can have a slightly bigger share, provided that the extra is taken in seedcorn and is planted, not eaten.

The author is a management consultant and a deputy chairman of the Wider Share Ownership Council.



Workers exercise their voting rights: "Formal provision for employee communications favours industrial peace."

moral experience, appear theologically naive", say the authors.

They incidentally point out that in recent years the most strike-prone industries have been comparatively highly paid. However, they considered it possible to test the doctrine that specialist provision and expenditure for labour relations pays off in significant improvement in performance and other aspects of the Donovan analysis.

As a result of their attempt to apply tests, they came to the conclusion that there is a systematic relation between strike incidence in firms and their managerial practices, but that few of the conventional prescriptions for industrial peace are supported by the evidence.

They say that the virtue of an increased ratio of specialist labour relations staff remains unproven and indeed may be "further suspect". Orderly bargaining, formalized agreements and procedures and more facilities for shop stewards result in standardization and a bureaucratization and increased rigidity that go with a higher rather than a lower strike incidence.

On the other hand they find a "fairly definite indication that formal provision for employee communications, particularly formal joint consultation, favour industrial peace."

One would hesitate, however, to advise firms as a result of this study to reduce the number of their labour relations staff, make their bargaining less

orderly, abandon formal consultation procedures or withdraw shop stewards' facilities. There are so many variables and information is so limited that it is impossible to establish convincing correlations between strike incidence and any single aspect of management.

The authors in fact carefully avoid telling employers what to do, as is the practice in most books on labour management. They concentrate on inquiry into facts, but were faced with great difficulties. To begin with they came up against the very low evaluation by British managements of the utility of systematic data on labour matters.

The state of labour relations may be indicated by other factors than strikes, such as absenteeism and labour turnover, but they found the only company with reasonably complete statistics were the Department of Employment's records of industrial disputes, while on the management organization side they had to depend on interviews, which meant limiting themselves to a comparatively small sample.

They chose two groups of plants, one strike-prone and the other strike-free, but in the strike wars of the early 1970s the strike-free plants ceased to be so. However, they were left with 45 plants in half a dozen industries with varying records of strike incidence which they compared with various management characteristics.

Sometimes it was doubtful

whether the chicken or the egg came first. For instance, were undertakings strike-prone because they had a lot of labour relations specialists or did they have a lot of labour relations specialists because they were strike-prone?

Moreover, the incidence of strikes is affected by many other factors than management characteristics such as the nature of the work, the history and traditions of the industry or location, the impact of dominant personalities on either side, the trade union structure, and the varying external impact of employer organizations or trade union attitudes or government policies, or simply by size.

The limitation of such a small sample is illustrated by the doubts expressed about the effects of size. Comprehensive statistics for manufacturing, published by the Department of Employment last year, showed quite clearly that the larger the plant the greater the incidence of strikes, at least up to the level of those with 1,000 or more employees.

But while none of the book's conclusions can be regarded as more than tentative, it is an interesting adventure in an uncharted field and could usefully be followed by inquiries on a larger scale.

*Management characteristics and labour conflict, by E. A. Turner, Geoffrey Roberts and David Roberts, published by Cambridge University Press (£4.50 hardback, £2 paperback).

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Second liners well to the fore

Initially firm after Friday night's late run and the strength of sterling, shares prices drifted back as the opening of the Labour Party conference introduced a note of caution. The floated market charted a similar course though the decline was more pronounced as investors took their profits following last week's unprecedented gains. Some long dates ended as much as a full point lower having started the session a similar amount higher. Shorter maturities lost one-eighth to one-quarter. The FT index, a full five points ahead at 10 am, closed 16.5 lower at 520.1. But many dealers felt this was rather misleading for though leading shares were neglected there was a fair amount of trading in the second-liners.

The "bears" have been at work in P & O following the recent poor crop of company results. But dealers are optimistic for this week's interim figures looking for profits of around £25m, against £15m, with OCL expected to contribute around £11m. In addition Bovis has £5m from a North American claim but there is doubt how it will be treated. The shares ended to 141p.

Among the industrial leaders Metal Box led the way up rising 10 to 340p after the go-ahead to raise prices. Other good spots were to be found in GEC, up 5p to 276p, Unilever 4p to 588p and Fisons 3p to 349p, but EMI, up 10p to 190p, was the most active of figures closing 8p lower at 220p. Consumers issues continued their recent strength with shares like Dixons Photo 11p to 171p, Henry Wigfall 9p to 148p and George Bassett 12p to 135p all making gains. In the group order group Freemans rose 6p

to 318p after a late rise which followed profits bang in line with market expectations. But Currys, at 212p, pared an early 15p rise to only 5p after figures which many found disappointing. Others, however, found this verdict a harsh one. Bid stocks produced the biggest percentage rise of the day Mining Supplies jumping 24p to 93p on news of an approach. Fine Arts group Spink & Son climbed 43p to 315p waiting for further news while Sothebys rose 9p to 193p in sympathy. Better news from Devonian helped British Electronic Communications to firm to 31p while both Henlys 3p to 135p and Photopia 3p to 51p rose on speculative support.

Unsurprisingly comment lifted Howard Machinery 8p to 46p, Gieves Group 6p to 85p, Lookers 7p to 51p and Hestair 4p to 140p. But adverse comment hit Tate & Lyle to the tune of 4p, to 196p and Royal which was lowered 4p to 231p.

Merchants bank continued to perform strongly, notably Guinness Peat 9p to 215p, Hambros 10p to 252p, Brown Shipley 3p to 208p, and Keyser Ullmann 3p to 49p. Jobber Alroyd and Smithers gained another 8p to 285p. Strided by recent takeover activity tea shares sprang to life. Demand gained 13p to 95, Assam Frontier 20p to 304p and Joka 7p to 220p. The terms from Longbourne helped British India to sport 75p to 325p. News that ARTY had become a close company lifted the "A" shares 5p to 112p. In oils Carless Capel held steady at 49p in front of what is expected to be good news this week on its fourth well in block 21/2. Profits statements lifted Jax Neil 10p to 89p, Beatson Clark 5p to 193p, Campari 7p to 55p, Associated Dairies were lifted 3p to 380p by the annual report. Stock shortages played a part in the insurance sector where

Sun Alliance scored a rise of 13p to 662p, Pearl gained 12p to 282p and Royal one of 10p to 482p. North Sea aspirations lifted Associated Newspapers which finished 8p to the good at 163p. Equity turnover on September 30 was £128.24m (19,923 bar-lasts week). On sales a quarter higher £26.5m in the first half of the year, trading profits climbed by 45 per cent to £1.46m. Depressions were heavier, but net bank interest much lower, so pre-tax profits shot forward by 72.9 per cent to £1.06m. More over, the board expects this second-half's results to be "no less" than the last half of 1976. This could mean pre-tax profits of about £2.22m for the year compared with last year's record £1.77m.

The bulk of the sales group came at home where the rise was 30.4 per cent to £6.63. Exports were 11 per cent greater at £1.99m. For 1977, board plans to pay the maximum rise allowed of 10 per cent. Meanwhile the interim dividend rises from 2.5p to 3p gross. To this must be added the supplementary final dividend for 1976 which was announced in August. This makes a payment of 3.1p gross. This Rotherham-based group is one of the United Kingdom's few major glass-container manufacturing concerns, and is one of the few in the world when demand rises. In its annual report earlier this year Dr A. W. Clark, the chairman, reported that demand throughout the industry continued high. The new reports on the group's plans for a complete reconstruction next year of a glass melting furnace at the Rotherham works. This would raise overall output by 15 per cent while substantially improving fuel efficiency.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Advance Lure (I)	11.1(10.6)	1.7(1.5)	1.9(1.7)	0.2(0.3)	3/1	(1.6)
Beatson Clark (I)	1.8(1.7)	0.1(0.1)	0.1(0.1)	0.1(0.1)	3/1	(2.9)
Bertam Co (P)	1.5(1.0)	0.65(0.48)	7.1(5.39)	1.1(1.0)	—	—
Campari (F)	13.3(9.4)	1.6(0.81)	—	0.82(—)	—	1.6(0.84)
Courtesy Pope (F)	15.7(11.3)	0.73(0.56)	7.10(5.23)	1.16(1.18)	—	2.16(1.9)
Currys (I)	65.8(56.8)	0.15(0.12)	—	0.59(0.54)	4/1	(4.6)
G. K. Dawes (F)	27.7(6.5)	2.2(1.6)	19.4(14.77)	—	—	(5.7)
Group (F)	3.7(1.1)	0.06(0.05)	—	—	—	—
Evered (I)	5.5(4.4)	0.06(0.15)	1.7(2.3)	0.2(NH)	31/10	0.19(—)
Freemans (I)	77.5(64.9)	5.5(4.5)	—	2.42(2.2)	6/12	(5.3)
Gartons (F)	1.0(0.4)	0.04(0.03)	0.42(0.48)	—	—	—
Geo. Innes (I)	0.5(0.45)	1.0(0.57)	1.58(0.32)	—	28/11	(0.7)
Int. Combustion (I)	—	0.02(0.06)	1.79(3.2)	—	—	—
Jax Neil (F)	2.1(1.8)	1.2(1.19)	2.82(3.2)	1.32(0.37)	22/11	(3.0)
James Watson (I)	7.2(5.5)	2.0(1.2)	—	2.1(2.1)	—	(4.7)
Sheffield Twist (I)	11.6(8.6)	1.4(0.51)	—	—	—	(2.5)
Smyth & Co (I)	0.35(0.28)	0.01(0.06)	1.74(1.06)	—	30/11	(1.1)
Tedley Mauds (I)	4.8(3.7)	0.12(0.08)	—	0.67(0.59)	30/11	(1.1)
Wood & Sons (I)	2.0(1.6)	0.21(0.17)	—	0.33(NH)	7/11	(0.53)

Mining
Supplies may
get bid

By Desmond Quigley
Shares of Mining Supplies, which manufactures equipment for the mining industry, jumped 24p to 93p yesterday, on disclosure of a possible takeover bid.

The announcement was made by Mr Arthur Snipe, chairman and managing director of the company who holds some 45 per cent of the equity directly, because of recent movements in the share price. Last week the shares gained 11p to 69p.

Yesterday's rise in the share price came despite a very cautious statement from Mr Snipe who gave a warning that there is no certainty of the negotiations further progress. He said a successful conclusion since they are at a very preliminary stage.

Mining Supplies' adviser, Singer & Friedlander, declined to name the company which has made the approach.

Although Mr Snipe is shown in the latest annual report as having 45 per cent of the company's equity, it is believed that total family holdings probably amount to over 50 per cent. A company called Abingworth holds 54.2 per cent.

In the year to end-April last the company increased pre-tax profits by just under a quarter from £1.4m to £1.75m. The net asset value backing for the shares was 27p.

The National Coal Board is the company's main customer. Mining Supplies manufactures a spiral vane cutting head for long wall coal mining and also makes mining conveyors.

Briefly

Derritron steps
up counter
offer for BEC

Derritron, the electronic equipment maker, which is controlled by Amalgamated Industrial Holdings, has increased its bid for British Electronic Communications. The terms are 52p cash for each Photopia share.

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ATV changes status
to 'close' company

The sale of a 29.6 per cent parcel of ordinary shares owned by the Treasury for

Dividend increase on the way as
Campari jumps to over £1m

By Alison Mitchell
Helped by last year's hot summer and wet winter, camping equipment distributor Campari managed an 85 per cent hike in profits for the year to May 31 last. The group consistently sailed past the psychological £1m mark for the first time to turn in pre-tax profits of £1.6m, compared with a previous £86,000.

Turnover rose £4m to £13.4m with sales in the United Kingdom accounting for a same-again two thirds.

However, much of this increase had already been envisaged by Mr Gabriel Benschner, chairman. An expansion programme which saw Campari move into Europe was launched in 1974 and 1975. This development is now beginning to pay off and the chairman is confident that there is a lot more to come. Figures for the current year so far are up to exports of £2.5m.

The chairman is still determined to give the holders a share of the increased profits. The leisure industry is a



Mr Gabriel Benschner, chairman of Campari.

buoyant industry. These results were not a miracle, but planned," said Mr Benschner. The chairman is still determined to give the holders a share of the increased profits. The leisure industry is a

a 30 per cent rise in the annual payout was turned down and the group had to content with a one-for-six "B" share scrip.

However if restrictions are not relaxed this year the group are likely to implement a dividend-booster rights issue. And the resulting cash would be used to finance the expansion and consolidation into Europe.

Campari is already operating in Holland, Germany, Belgium, France and Sweden. And plans are advanced for entry into Norway, Denmark and Spain. Mr Benschner revealed that within the next five years he expects the ratio of sales in the United Kingdom and Europe to be reversed with around 66 per cent of turnover coming from the continent.

The group, which markets leisure, camping and boating equipment, has other plans for expansion. Campari shareholders should be in the shops by the end of the month while a new sporting division is due to come on stream in June 1978.

The group, which markets leisure, camping and boating equipment, has other plans for expansion. Campari shareholders should be in the shops by the end of the month while a new sporting division is due to come on stream in June 1978.

C & S in for Photopia at £2.5m

An agreed £2.5m cash bid was made yesterday by Central & Southern for Photopia International, which covers the importing and distribution of photographic, optical, audio and electronic equipment. The day started with Photopia's quotation being temporarily suspended at 9.30 am at the board's request.

This was followed by an announcement that talks which could lead to a bid were at an "advanced" stage. A few hours later, the quotation was restored and C & S's takeover made known. The terms are 52p cash for each Photopia share.

Photopia's board have irrevocably undertaken to accept for 2.5 million shares (or 52.75 per cent).

C & S is in engineering, financial services and printing and publishing. Photopia's

shares closed 3p higher at 51p, while C & S were 47 1/2p, up a halfpenny.

James Finlay trebles
in first half-year

More than trebled pre-tax profits were earned in the first six months of this year by James Finlay. With turnover up from £20.29m to £38.35m, pre-tax profits jumped from £2.16m to £6.85m. The board expects 1977 to show a "good result" to which the bulk of the group's profit centres have contributed, although higher selling prices for tea in the last 12 months have meant exceptional profit growth from Finlay's tea plantation activities in particular. A record £11.52m pre-tax was made in 1976.

ATV changes status
to 'close' company

The sale of a 29.6 per cent parcel of ordinary shares owned by the Treasury for

Television Corporation shares, partly to chairman Lord Garmichael and two of his fellow directors, has named the Birmingham-based entertainment group into a "close" company.

The shares were formerly held by three Read International subsidiaries IPC Magazines, Mirror Group Newspapers and International Publishing Corporation. Control of the voting shares—and the widely-held "A" shares have no voting rights—now rest in the hands of five or fewer directors, automatically giving ATV "close" company status.

Longbourne seeking
whole of Brit Indian

Longbourne Holdings is to bid for the 168,000 ordinary shares, about 54 per cent of the total, and 3,200 preference, 98.12 per cent, of British Indian Tea Co (Holdings), not already owned.

Brisk sales overseas help
Canon's opening increase

Canon Inc, the Japanese camera manufacturer, reports net profits of 4,400m yen (about £9m) for the first half ended June 30. This was an increase from 2,900m yen in the same period last year.

Sales rose from 72,900m yen to 82,900m yen. The company said that the brisk overseas sales of two overseas subsidiaries, Canon US Inc and Canon Amsterdam NV, improved profits sharply, contributing to Canon's overall results.

The figures confirm that the company has made a consistent rise from the darker days of 1974.

Rhône-Poulenc plans

M Jean Gaudet, director-general of Rhône-Poulenc, says that the textile-chemical group does not plan to close its textile activities. Mr Gaudet points out that its textile division accounted for about 2,500m francs (about £278m) or 10 per cent of the group's overall turnover.

The group's activities, he said, were highly integrated—about 10 per cent of the output of its petrochemical division involved intermediary products for the production of nylon and Polyesters.

John Foord

chartered surveyors

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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